



WINTER BLAST DUMPS SNOW ON U.S. NORTHEAST

Page 4



E.U. SUSPENDS ITS TRADE TALKS WITH UKRAINE

Page 8

Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Monday, December 16, 2013



Nelson Mandela's grandson Mandla Mandela, left, watches as military soldiers stand at attention over former South African President Madela's casket before his burial in his home village of Qunu, South Africa, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013.

(AP Photo/Elmond Jiyane, CGIS)

Thousands Gather To Bury Mandela In His Home Village

LYDIA POLGREEN

JOHN ELIGON

ALAN COWELL

© 2013 New York Times

QUNU, South Africa - They gathered in the rolling green hills of the Eastern Cape on Sunday to return a son to his native soil: princes and presidents, chiefs and priests, celebrities and grandmothers, comrades and cellmates, here to bury Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. "Whilst your long walk to freedom has ended in the physical sense, our own journey continues," Presi-

dent Jacob G. Zuma declared in a eulogy for Mandela, a global emblem of struggle and reconciliation, at a state funeral in this far-flung village.

"As you take your final steps, South Africa will continue to rise."

The ceremony began in a cavernous dome housing thousands with choirs and television cameras, prayers and memories.

The funeral - the final parting after a series of celebrations and memorials that has consumed the

land since Mandela died December 5 after months of illness and decline - left his country poised on the cusp of a post-Mandela era that seems absolutely certain to test the durability of his legacy.

Mandela's state funeral burial knitted together the many strands of his life.

In addition to the full pomp of state ceremonies, complete with goose-stepping soldiers, 21-gun salutes and jet fighter formations, the service included Christian prayers - Mandela was a

lifelong Methodist - and traditions and rituals of the AbaThembu community into which he was born. Indeed, long before he became a freedom fighter, a fugitive, the world's most famous political prisoner and then the embodiment of forgiveness and reconciliation, Nelson Mandela was a boy of the Thembu royal family.

His attachment to Qunu, the place where he spent most of his childhood, was so deep that he used to tell his daughter Makaziwe,

the eldest of his surviving children, that "if I am not buried there, my bones will shake," she said in an interview this year.

Three of his children are buried here: A daughter, Makaziwe, who died at 9 months; his eldest son, Thembi, who died in a car crash in 1969, while Mandela was on Robben Island; and his son Makgatho, who died of complications from AIDS in 2005.

Continued on page 2

Thousands Gather To Bury Mandela

Continued from Front

Though less visible than the military honors and Christian hymns that accompanied the funeral, Thembu rituals were a vital part of the proceedings. When Mandela's body arrived at his home, the chief and the king of the AbaThembu kingdom, a Methodist priest and his family were there to welcome him with prayer and song. On Saturday night, Mandela's body lay in his bedroom, said Bantu Holomisa, a family

Funerals here are not simply a time to celebrate a person's life; they are a forum for recounting one's story, whatever path he or she may have followed. Speakers are called from all parts of the person's life. That tradition was on vivid display in the marquee where Mandela's state funeral was held. Ahmed Kathrada, a fellow defendant in the treason trial that sent Mandela to prison for 27 years, said in an emotional address that Mandela had united a divided nation.

from meeting Mandela. "It is about serving the people with selflessness, with sacrifice and with the need to put the common good ahead of personal interests." About 5,000 people attended the state funeral, but millions more watched it on television. In Mabeleni, a village just up the road from Qunu, Nokwanele Sapepa and four generations of her family gathered to say their final farewell to Mandela. "Madiba is gone," Sapepa said. "We will never see an-



A military honor guard returns after escorting the coffin of former South African President Nelson Mandela to his state funeral, held in the dome in background, in Qunu, South Africa, Dec. 15, 2013. Thousands assembled in a dome for a state funeral for Mandela before he was buried in a smaller ceremony at the family plot in Qunu, the village where he spent part of his childhood.
(Bryan Denton/The New York Times)

friend and political leader. Bringing a body home before burial is an important part of the tradition here. The family and elders need "to talk to the body, to say: 'You're not going to be with us anymore. We're going to take you to your last resting place,'" said an elder member of the Mandela family who asked that her name be withheld because she did not want to be seen as going against the family's wishes. It was also important that the body spend time in the house, she added, "to connect with the spirits in the house."

"Today, mingled with the grief is the enormous pride that one of our own has during your life, and now in your death, united the people of South Africa and the entire world on a scale never experienced before in history," Kathrada said. Joyce Banda, the president of neighboring Malawi, gave a plain-spoken and heartfelt tribute to Mandela as an exemplar for African leaders. "I learned leadership is about loving the people you serve and the people you serve falling in love with you," Banda said, recalling what she had gleaned

other one like him." At the graveside, Monwabisi Jamangile, the chaplain general of the South African military, gave the final public word. "Now you have achieved ultimate freedom in the bosom of your maker," Jamangile declared over the coffin as it sat atop the grave. A 21-gun salute rang out. Jet planes roared overhead in formation. The Last Post bugle call echoed across the rolling green hills. And Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela's body was returned to the earth. □

CARIBBEAN NEWS BRIEFS

Suspect nabbed in lottery scam probe

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Jamaican authorities have arrested a man suspected of involvement in the island's lottery scam. Police say the suspect from St. Elizabeth parish in the country's south is being investigated following a raid at his residence. Officers searching his home allegedly found "lead sheets," or lists with names, addresses, phone numbers and Social Security numbers of U.S. citizens. A laptop and three cell phones were also seized. The scam often begins with a phone call that informs the targets that they have won an international lottery, but they first need to wire money to cover taxes. Victims who fall for the trick then get harassed for more money. □

Bermuda casino gambling still on hold

HAMILTON, Bermuda (AP) — The government of Bermuda says it will no longer hold a referendum as promised on whether the island should legalize casinos. Premier Craig Cannonier told reporters this weekend that legislators will instead address the issue through an upcoming bill. He said the government also will launch a public information campaign in upcoming weeks. Cannonier said he decided to scrap the referendum amid reports that the opposition party would boycott it. The opposition party has denied those accusations and said it supported holding a referendum. □

Puerto Rican allegedly disrupted flight

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — FBI agents have charged a 44-year-old Puerto Rican man with interfering with a JetBlue Airways crew on a flight from Florida to Puerto Rico. The FBI said in a statement that David Soto Jimenez was upset he could not switch to a specific seat after being told his original seat did not recline because it was near the emergency exit. The agency said Soto threatened to punch an attendant and that he lifted up his shirt to show his tattoos while asking whether the flight crew knew who he was. The FBI said Soto eventually calmed down and was detained after the plane landed. Soto lives in Jacksonville, Florida. □

Guyana sugar industry at 23 year low

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — The government of Guyana says sugar production in the South American country will hit a 23-year low this year. Guyana projects total production will be below 210,000 tons for 2013. That is about 14,000 tons below target. It is the lowest total since 1990 for the largest sugar-producing country in the Caribbean Community trade organization. Officials cite a number of factors for the shortfall, including strikes over wages by sugar workers and migration of workers to gold mining. Guyana has agreed to export nearly 190,000 tons to the European Union, leaving the rest for domestic consumption. □

Police seize cocaine at Kingston port

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Jamaican authorities say they have seized 237 pounds (108 kilograms) of cocaine in recent incidents at a port in the capital of Kingston. Police said this weekend that they found 44 pounds (20 kilograms) of cocaine during a routine search at the Kingston Container Terminal. The seizure comes fresh off the heels of officers saying they found 193 pounds (88 kilograms) of cocaine stashed in a different container earlier in the week. Police say three cocaine seizures have occurred at the island's ports so far this month. □

Mystery man gives 'Tips For Jesus' of up to \$10,000



A combination of photos from the "Tips for Jesus" Instagram account. (Handout Photo)

VERENA DOBNIK
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The \$111.05 New York restaurant receipt includes a \$1,000 tip and the words "god bless!" scrawled across it. The handle @tipsforjesus is stamped next to an illegible signature. In recent weeks, similar tabs have popped up in restaurants from coast to coast and even in Mexico, with tips of as much as \$10,000 — all charged to American Express. So who's the anonymous tipster leaving a trail of generosity across the continent? Tips for Jesus — an Instagram account filled with photos documenting the tips — has more than 50,000 followers. The ac-

count displays photos of smiling servers holding receipts with outlandish gratuities on bills also tallied in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Phoenix and Ann Arbor, Michigan. On Twitter, Tips for Jesus has nearly 3,000 followers but no tweets. The Instagram feed comes with the tagline, "Doing the Lord's work, one tip at a time." Three Manhattan restaurants were especially blessed the first weekend of December. A waiter in the restaurant of the No-Mad Hotel got a \$7,000 tip, another at The Smith restaurant was left \$3,500, and \$1,000 went to Aruj Dhawan, a 25-year-old fashion marketing student

and immigrant from India working at Bo's Kitchen & Bar Room. Dhawan served three guests who walked in one recent Saturday evening. Their order — a bourbon, a beer, an appetizer, a pork ragout and a pork chop — amounted to \$111.05, plus \$1,000 for the waiter. When they were gone, "Aruj approached me, handed me the receipt and said, 'Is this for real?'" said general manager Benjamin Cramer. Again, before leaving, the tipster had snapped a photo of the waiter with

the check and posted it on Instagram. The tipster also wrote his cellphone number at the bottom of the tab, telling Cramer to call him if American Express had any issues with processing the receipt. After seeing the amount, Cramer said he understood why the credit card company might be suspicious and he himself was curious. So he called the number. The man who answered reassured the manager that the tip was real. The man demanded anonymity, so Cramer did not pursue tracking his identity.

A \$1,000 tip also went to a waiter at the Hungry Cat in Los Angeles after three men finished their dinner, said restaurant spokeswoman Jannis Swerman. One of them stamped the check @tipsforjesus. In another photo, a Phoenix bartender beams looking at his \$2,500 tip. "This middle-aged gentleman came in with a woman, and they sat at the bar," says Micah Olson, the bartender at a restaurant called Crudo who served them one of the most expensive whiskeys at \$70 per ounce. □

Groom killed helping man in snow

CHICAGO (AP) — A man married less than seven hours was killed along with a stranded motorist he stopped to help in the snow when they were struck by several vehicles, authorities say. The man was on the way back from his wedding reception to a hotel when the accident happened. William "Riley" Knight, 49, of Crown Point, was driving with his wife, Nikki, about 11:45 p.m. Saturday when they saw a woman who had slid off the road in the snow. "He said, 'We've got to stop, it's late and they need help,'" Nikki Knight told the Chicago Sun-Times on Sunday. He pulled his truck into a nearby driveway and Nikki Knight waited inside while

he went out to help Linda Darlington, 42, of Crown Point. They were standing by the side of the road when they were struck by one vehicle, and then two more, the Lake County sheriff's office said. Nikki Knight, a registered nurse, said when she got to the wreck, neither Knight nor Darlington had pulses. They were pronounced dead at the scene early Sunday. "I went from a being a newlywed to a widow in less than 48 hours — the highest high to the lowest low," Nikki Knight said. "It's a blur." Police said all drivers involved in the crash remained at the scene. No charges had been filed as of Sunday afternoon. □



*This Christmas find your perfect sparkling gifts
in your nearest Swarovski boutique*

Royal Plaza from 10am to 6pm - Palm Beach Plaza from 1 to 10 pm

Ski lodges, snowmobilers buoyed by Northeast snow



A small tractor clears remaining snow from a parking lot in Trenton, N.J., Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013, as New Jersey residents continue to clean up after a winter storm that dropped several inches of snow in northern areas and created tricky travel conditions in other areas.

(AP Photo/Mel Evans)

DAVE COLLINS
Associated Press

HARTFORD, Connecticut
(AP) — A weekend storm that dumped a foot (30

centimeters) or more of snow in parts of the U.S. Northeast made ski area operators happy, but travelers were still dealing with

slippery roads and flight cancellations Sunday. Snowfall in the region ranged from 2 to 8 inches (5 to 20 centimeters) in

Connecticut and Rhode Island to almost 11 inches (27.5 centimeters) in northern Massachusetts and nearly 17 inches (42.5 centimeters) on Maine's southern coast, according to the National Weather Service. Car accidents were reported across the region, including a crash in central Pennsylvania that killed two people late Saturday morning. Police tell The Altoona Mirror that an SUV was traveling too fast for weather conditions when it lost control and slid into the path of an oncoming pickup truck. The two people in the SUV died, and the truck driver was seriously injured. Airports were also trying to get back to normal after hundreds of flight cancellations. Many morning flights at Logan International Airport in Boston and other airports in the region were canceled, but most afternoon flights were listed as on time.

Flights in the New York City area, which received significant snowfall totals, were taking off on schedule Sunday.

New York City's Central Park Zoo recorded 6 inches (15 centimeters) of snow Saturday, while Westchester County in suburban New York netted 7.5 inches (19 centimeters). The snow turned to rain in the metropolitan area overnight and left behind a coating of ice, resulting in slick sidewalks and roadways.

Some Christmas shoppers saw the storm as an opportunity to avoid crowds Sunday morning.

"It is slippery and no one is out," said Bruce Long of Boston, who was shopping in Newton, Massachusetts, just west of Boston "They're warning people that if you have to get out, do it now because later it's going to get cold. This is all going to turn to ice and it will be a mess." □





Monday Madness!

Play in our fantastic FREE Entry Slot Tournament every Monday!

Registration starts at 7pm with a \$500 CASH PRIZE pool!

Where Aruba goes to play!

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • www.casinoalhambra.com

Must be an Alhambra Advantage member. All programs and promotions are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.



Senator McCain: CIA misled Congress on missing American

WASHINGTON (AP) — A senior U.S. senator suggested on Sunday that the CIA has not been forthcoming with Congress on details about an American who disappeared while on a secret intelligence mission to Iran. Iran's foreign minister asserted that Robert Levinson is "not incarcerated by the government and I believe the government runs, pretty much, good control of the country."

An Associated Press investigation published this past week found that Levinson was working for the CIA — investigating the Iranian government. The U.S. long has publicly described Levinson as a private citizen who traveled to an Iranian island on private business.

Republican Sen. John McCain told CNN's "State of the Union" that "the CIA did not tell the truth to the Congress" about Levinson. McCain said he is confident the U.S. is doing all it can to learn what has happened to Levinson.

But he said he is disturbed the Obama administration has not been more forthcoming with information about him.

He said he doesn't "think there's any doubt" about whether Iran knows Levinson's fate.

But Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif, asked on CBS television's "Face the Nation" where Levinson is, replied: "I have no idea."

"If we can trace him and find him, we will certainly discuss" returning him to the United States, he added, though he made clear that "we have no traces of him in Iran."

Secretary of State John



Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. walks to a closed-door briefing on the recent agreement reached between Iran and western powers on Iran's nuclear program, on Capitol Hill in Washington. McCain told CNN's "State of the Union" that "the CIA did not tell the truth to the Congress" about Levinson. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

Kerry dismissed a suggestion by Levinson's family that the U.S. government was not doing enough to find out what happened to Levinson.

"There hasn't been progress in the sense that we don't have him back. But to suggest that we have abandoned him or anybody has abandoned him is simply incorrect ... and not helpful," he told ABC television's "This Week."

"The fact is I have personally raised the issue not only at the highest level ... but also through other intermediaries. Right now, "we're looking for proof of life," Kerry said.

Iran's press counselor at the United Nations called on Washington to explain Levinson's mission in Iranian territory, after the AP investigation revealed that he had been on an unauthorized assignment for the CIA when he vanished on Iran's Kish Island in March 2007. □

Enjoy our
much celebrated
**3-Course
Dinner Special!**

Appetizer	• Fish Soup • Onion Soup • Conch Fritters • Escargot • Salad
Entrée	• Fresh Catch of the Day prepared by our local chef just the way you like it. • Jumbo Shrimp from our local waters, breaded served with potato or rice or with garlic tossed over linguine. • Filet Mignon* 8 oz. US Tenderloin • Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast
Dessert	• Chocolate or Banana Cake • Ice Cream • Coffee / Tea

**3-course dinner
\$25.95
per person**

This special cannot be used with any other promotions, vouchers or certificates.



Driftwood Restaurant
Authentic Aruban Seafood

25th ANNIVERSARY

Open daily from 5:00pm - 10:30pm (closed on Sundays)
For reservations call: 583-2515 - Klipstraat 12, Downtown.
www.driftwoodaruba.com • driftwood@setarnet.aw

BENLO CIGARS
Import & Export • We ship all over the world • Tel.: 5863555
Located in the Arowak Garden, next to Salt & Pepper,
Paparazzi and Tango Restaurant.

We are specialized in premium Cuban Cigars.
Opening hours: Mon. - Sat. 8:30am - 11:00pm
Sunday 9:00am - 11:00pm

Depending on purchase, we have discounts starting from 5% up to 20%.
With purchase of \$20 or more 1 FREE CIGAR

Bring this coupon for your free Cuban Cigar!

ARUBA OSTRICH FARM



- Eat, drink, tour and relax
- Fresh home cooked meals
- Open from 9'am - 4'pm
- Hotel transfers available

20% OFF
TOUR PRICE IF YOU
STAY FOR LUNCH.

No reservations
needed for
SMALL GROUPS

Hotel transfer available!
Tel: 585-9630
BRING THIS AD AND RECEIVE THE TOUR
HALF PRICE WITH YOUR LUNCH



Location:
Across the Valero GAS Station
Boulevard by the Aruba's Cruise
Ship Terminal

PROUDLY PRESENTS:
TOURIST FLEA MARKET
& FARMER'S MARKET

★ **SOUVENIRS**

★ **HANDBAGS**

★ **T-SHIRT**

★ **HATS, MUGS**

★ **ARUBAN CRAFT**

★ **CIGARS**

★ **LEATHER GOODS**

★ **SUNGLASSES**



MONDAY - SUNDAY
9:00AM TO 7:00PM

Budget deal may signal era of tiny achievements

CHARLES BABINGTON

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — People hoping for a better working U.S. government can't decide whether to cheer or lament a bipartisan budget bill that legislative leaders call a breakthrough even as they acknowledge it does little.

In an era of low expectations, House passage of the bill marks a rare cease-fire that should avoid a repeat of October's government shutdown and flirtation with default.

Yet it comes nowhere near the more ambitious efforts to address long-term spending and debt. Such comprehensive plans repeatedly collapsed in recent years despite secret White House talks, blue-ribbon panels, a congressional "supercommittee" and other devices and tactics. Several Washington insiders warn against assuming the new budget deal will lead to progress on immigration

reform and other stalemated issues.

"The president calls it a good first step, but to what?" said Bob Bixby of the bipartisan Concord Coalition, which advocates far-reaching budget reforms. "My fear is that it may be the end of the search for the larger grand bargain rather than the beginning. It has that feel."

"Grand bargain" refers to a bipartisan accord that would start to slow the long-term cost projections of Social Security and Medicare — which provide retirement benefits and health care coverage to the elderly — while raising tax revenues to lower the deficit, among other things. The bill that passed the House on Thursday, and awaits Senate action, is a tiny step forward, Bixby said. "But you can't get that excited if your kid brings home a D because it wasn't an F," he said.

Democratic Sen. Patty



Speaker of the House John Boehner, R-Ohio, is joined by Rep. Pete Sessions, R-Texas, left, during a news conference at the Capitol. People hoping for a better-functioning government can't decide whether to cheer or lament Congress' bipartisan budget bill. Legislative leaders call a breakthrough even as they acknowledge it does little.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Murray, a chief architect of the budget deal, said the agreement helps "bring some respect to the word

'compromise.'" Rep. Paul Ryan, who represented Republicans in negotiating the deal, expressed hope that "the country is not going to see these shutdowns and Congress is going to get back to the business of paying the bills and prioritizing spending."

Both Murray and Ryan were interviewed on NBC television's "Meet the Press." Some lawmakers see the glass half full. They hope the budget deal will cool partisan passions in 2014 and beyond. "Maybe it's something we can build on," said Republican Rep. Tom Cole. "Success begets success, and trust builds trust."

One possible area of renewed effort is a proposed immigration overhaul. The Democratic-run Senate passed a version this year with support from some Republican senators, but the Republican-controlled

House of Representatives has stalled it.

Advocates talk of a possible piecemeal House approach to immigration. But Democrats and Republicans are divided on whether millions of immigrants living in the U.S. illegally should be given a path to citizenship. Some influential lawmakers say the budget deal doesn't necessarily brighten prospects elsewhere.

"I don't see that this is a clear channel for us to move to immigration," said Republican Rep. Pete Sessions, chairman of the House Rules Committee. "I don't think that's what this was about."

Sessions said he hopes the House-passed measure will stave off future budget fights "with a little more certainty, where we can aim at Obamacare, and its impact on the economy and jobs."

Sentiments like that suggest Washington may return quickly to divisive issues, most prominently President Barack Obama's health reform law, which Republicans vehemently oppose.

The budget deal eases a harsh set of spending cuts scheduled for 2014 and 2015. But it leaves intact most of the roughly \$1 trillion in automatic cuts set to hit the military, domestic agencies and Medicare providers through 2021.

Replacing the cuts would be new money from, among other things, higher airline security fees, reductions in pension benefits for working-age military retirees, and higher pension costs for employers and new federal workers hired after the end of this year. The deal does little to dent the nation's \$17 trillion debt. □



The House of the "LION FISH"
just food & good times

Breakfast: Pastechi, Croquette, Sandwiches, Omelets, Pancakes, Fruits

Coffees: Capuccinos, Latte, Frappuccino...

Lunch: Chicken Skewers, Sirloin Skewers, Wraps, Burgers, Salads & Catch of the Day

NOW OPEN

Daily Lunch Specials
AWG 15,-
INCL. Soft Drink

BIRTHDAY PARTIES!!!
CORPORATE EVENTS!!!
FRIDAY BEER BUCKETS
HAPPY HOUR
"FREE SNACKS"

Ph: +297 630 2141 reefandbeef@hotmail.com

FB: ReefandBeef Aruba

Dr. Horacio Oduber Blvd #4 @ AquaWindle's



Maggysaua
Perfumes, Cosmetics & Salons
Your Beauty Emporium Since 1953

f GO TO
www.facebook.com/Maggysaua
...and tell us in 150 words what
your favourite fragrance is and why?

Renaissance Market Place	Paseo Herencia Mall	Marriott Ocean Club
Salon 583-6108	Perfumery & Salon 586-2113	Perfumery 586-6506
Express Sta. Cruz	Main Street	San Nicolas
Salon 585-8536	Perfumery 582-2113	Perfumery 584-1400

Dior CHANEL CLARINS GUERLAIN
LANCÔME JIL/EDO

AP-GfK poll:

Health Care overhaul perceived as eroding coverage

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans who already have health insurance are blaming President Barack Obama's health care overhaul for raising the costs of their policies while making them pay a larger share of their medical bills out of pocket, and overall 3 in 4 say the rollout of coverage for the uninsured has gone poorly. An Associated Press-GfK poll finds that health care remains politically charged going into next year's elections when control of both houses of Congress will be at stake. Keeping the refurbished HealthCare.gov website running smoothly is just one of Obama's challenges, maybe not the biggest. The poll found a striking level of unease about the law among people who have already have health insurance and aren't looking to take advantage of the new law. Those are the 85 percent of Americans who the White House says don't have to be worried about the president's historic push to expand coverage for the uninsured. Most Americans get their health insurance coverage through plans offered through their employer, or from government programs covering the elderly, poor, disabled, and active duty military and veterans. The U.S. has been the only leading industrial country without universal health care coverage. Obama's Affordable Care Act is intended to provide coverage for millions of uninsured Americans by raising income levels to qualify for Medicaid — the government program that covers the poor — and creating state and national exchanges through

websites that offer the uninsured an opportunity to obtain lower-cost coverage at group rates — with many qualifying for government subsidies to make their rates more affordable. The United States is the only major industrial country without a universal health care system. But the survey showed that nearly half of those who already have job-based or other private coverage say their policies will be changing next year — mostly for the worse. Nearly 4 in 5 (77 percent) blame the changes on the Affordable Care Act, even though the trend toward leaner coverage predates the law's passage in 2010. Sixty-nine percent say they will have to pay more for their insurance policies, while 59 percent say they will have to pay more out of pocket for their medical care. Only 21 percent of those with private coverage said their plan is expanding to cover more types of medical care, though coverage of preventive care at no charge to the patient has been required by the law for the past couple of years. Fourteen percent said coverage for spouses is being restricted or eliminated, and 11 percent said their plan is being discontinued. Other potential bumps are just ahead for Obama's law. It is unclear whether everyone who wants and needs coverage by Jan. 1 will be able to get it through the new online insurance markets. Some people who have to switch plans because their policies were cancelled may find that their new insurance covers different drugs, or that they

have to look for other doctors. In the poll, taken just after the revamped federal website was unveiled, 11 percent of Americans said they or someone in their household had tried to sign up for health insurance in the new marketplaces. Sixty-two percent of those said they or the person in their household ran into problems. About one-fourth of all who tried managed to enroll. Half said they were not able to buy insurance, and the remaining quarter said they weren't sure. The AP-GfK Poll was conducted Dec. 5-9 and involved online interviews with 1,367 adults. □



President Barack Obama pauses as he speaks about the new health care law during a White House Youth Summit at the White House in Washington. Americans who already have health insurance are blaming President Barack Obama's health care overhaul for their rising premiums and deductibles, and overall 3 in 4 say the rollout of coverage for the uninsured has gone poorly.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

BINGO!

**TUESDAY • 4PM | FRIDAY • 5PM
& SATURDAY • 4PM**

TOTAL OF \$1,500 IN CASH PRIZES!

**\$6 for 9 games includes the Powerball.
Buy a stamp for \$2 to double your prizes.**

Management reserves all rights. Must be a member of the Trop Advantage® Club to participate. Must be 18 years of age or older. Play responsibly. www.gamblersanonymous.org.



TROP CLUB & CASINO

J.E. IRAUSQUIN BLVD. 248
Aruba, Dutch Caribbean
troparuba.com

TROPICANA ENTERTAINMENT CASINOS | TROPICANACASINOS.COM










Celebrating our 27th anniversary with YOU!
Present this Ad receive \$10 discount per couple

SPECIAL OF THE WEEK

- **Beach & Cave Tour**
- **Wet'n Wild - Jeep Tour**

Pelican Pier (between Holiday Inn and Playa Linda Resort), Holiday Inn Towel Hut Center, Holiday Inn Concierge, Holiday Inn Lobby, Westin Aruba Poolside, Westin Aruba Lower Lobby, Casa Del Mar Beach Resort.
Or book online at www.pelican-aruba.com



For reservation call:
5872302 or 5861455 (Sundays)

EU suspends talks with Ukraine over trade deal

ANDREW E. KRAMER

© 2013 New York Times

KIEV, Ukraine - The European Union on Sunday broke off talks with Ukraine on the far-reaching trade deal that protesters here have been demanding for weeks, and a top official issued a stinging, angry statement all but accusing Ukraine's president of dissembling.

The bloc's enlargement chief, Stefan Fule, wrote on Twitter that the words and actions of the president, Viktor Yanukovich, were "growing further and further apart," even as the Ukrainian crisis was showing signs of deepening. On Sunday, about a 100,000 protesters clogged a main plaza and surrounding streets, rivaling earlier weekend rallies in size.

The statement by Fule, coming amid this protest, sent a pointed message to the crowd that the Ukraine government might well have to change before the EU agreement can be revived.

Fule said that further discussions on the trade agreement would hinge on receiving clear signals from Ukraine's government, but that he had received no response. "Work on hold," he tweeted, saying he had told a Ukrainian deputy prime minister, Sergei Arbutov, that the government had to show "a clear commitment to sign."

Officials in Brussels, the headquarters of the EU's executive arm, the European Commission, confirmed the decision to suspend the talks with Ukraine.



Ukrainian lawmaker and chairman of the Ukrainian opposition party Udar (Punch), WBC heavyweight boxing champion Vitali Klitschko, left, speaks to U.S. Senator John McCain during a pro-European Union rally in the Independence Square in Kiev, Ukraine, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013. About 200,000 anti-government demonstrators converged on the central square of Ukraine's capital Sunday, a dramatic demonstration that the opposition's morale remains strong after nearly four weeks of daily protests.

(AP Photo/Sergei Chuzavkov)

After years of negotiations with Brussels, Yanukovich was to sign the EU association agreement late last month, but then he announced that he would

not because austerity measures demanded in a related International Monetary Fund loan were too stringent and because Russia had threatened trade

sanctions.

His government began talks on rival trade and economic deals with Russia, even as Yanukovich insisted he intended eventually to sign the EU deal. Perplexed, high-level Western diplomats traveled to Kiev, Ukraine's capital, last week. Yanukovich told the EU's foreign policy chief, Catherine Ashton, and an assistant secretary of state, Victoria Nuland, that he intended to sign the European trade deal, and would not join the rival Russian-backed customs union.

Ashton, after returning from her mission to Ukraine, said in Brussels on Thursday that she had assurances from the president of his intention to sign.

"Yanukovich made it clear to me that he intends to sign the association agreement," she said. □

Kim Jong Un's aunt appears to survive purge

CHOE SANG-HUN

© 2013 New York Times

SEOUL, South Korea - Kim Kyong Hui, the only aunt of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, appeared to have survived the purge and execution of her husband, Jang Song Thaek, as her name re-emerged in a leadership list in the North's state-run media over the weekend.

The North's Korean Central News Agency on Saturday included the aunt's name in the roster of top officials appointed to a national committee in charge of organizing a state funeral for a former party secretary who died Friday at age 89. In North Korea, whether an official's name is included in such a list is an important gauge on whether the official is favored by the regime. The aunt was placed sixth in the list that included most of the well-known top party and military figures.

Jang, 67, long considered to be the No. 2 man and mentor of Kim Jong Un, was executed Thursday on charges of plotting to overthrow Kim's government, North Korea announced Friday. North Korea also indicated that it was purging those close to Jang, who was accused of building a network of followers in the ruling Workers' Party of Korea, the government and the Korean People's Army. Jang and his wife had been widely seen as parent-like figures for Kim Jong Un, helping their nephew establish himself as supreme leader. As her husband's purge unfolded in past weeks, Kim Kyong Hui's name also disappeared from North Korean media, triggering speculation over her fate.

Although the entire extended family of a traitor is often executed or sent to a prison camp in North

Korea, analysts have said that Kim Jong Un would likely save his aunt. She is the only, beloved sister of Kim's father, Kim Jong Il, who ruled North Korea before him.

Diminutive, frail and reportedly sick, Kim Kyong Hui, 67, seldom appeared in public during her brother's rule. But following his death, she raised her profile, assuming more titles, accompanying her nephew in his public appearances and attending the meetings presided over by him.

Even before Jang's downfall, analysts in South Korea had speculated that he was estranged from his wife.

Yoon Sang-hyun, a deputy floor leader of the governing Saenuri Party in South Korea, told reporters Dec. 8 that Kim Kyong Hui had been "separated" from Jang and did not oppose his purge. □



PALM BEACH #33-A WWW.WACKYWAHOOS.COM

STEAK, SEAFOOD, B.B.Q. & FUN!

Ex-Hadicurari BBQ & Grill with the same owner's.
 We do our own daily fishing so we serve the freshest seafood on the Island.

**Very reasonable price, exciting menu and
 NO SERVICE CHARGE**

Dinner from 5:30 - 10:00
 Monday - Saturday



FRESH CATCH & SEAFOOD
 We are located close to the High-rise hotel's at walking distance.

RESERVATION SUGGESTED

TEL: 586-7333



JOLLY PIRATES SUNSET SAILS NOW DEPART DAILY! CALL 586 8107

Stunned by storm, Gaza Strip receives fuel delivery

IBRAHIM BARZAK

Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)

— The Gaza Strip received its first shipment of industrial fuel in 45 days on Sunday, bringing much-needed relief to the coastal territory after a winter storm dumped rare snow across the region.

The storm, which began late Wednesday and saw temperatures dip below freezing, crippled the city of Jerusalem and leaving thousands without power in Israel and the neighboring West Bank.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu described it as the worst storm in decades. It dumped up to 60 centimeters (two feet) of snow on Jerusalem, a huge amount for a city that often goes entire winters without a snowstorm. Temperatures at this time of year are usually about 10 to 15 degrees

(50 to 60 F), and just two weeks ago had hovered around 20 degrees C (70 F). Gaza, located on the Mediterranean coast, experienced its first snowfall in some 20 years, but most of the damage was caused by flooding.

A lack of fuel has hampered rescue efforts in Gaza, where an estimated 40,000 residents fled flooded homes. The storm let up Sunday, but authorities in the region still struggled to clear roads and repair downed power lines.

Gaza has suffered from chronic fuel shortages since the Hamas militant group seized power in 2007, prompting Israel and Egypt to impose a blockade on the territory. But the situation has worsened since a coup in neighboring Egypt last July. The country's new military rulers have tightened the blockade

and destroyed a network of smuggling tunnels that were used to ship cheap fuel into the territory.

While the rival Palestinian government in the West Bank can send fuel to Gaza through Israel, Gaza's

Hamas rulers have refused to accept the shipments, saying they cannot afford a new tax. □



An armed Jewish settler directs a car that was submerged in snow in the West Bank Jewish outpost of Givat Asaf, north of the West Bank Palestinian city of Ramallah, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013. Early snow has surprised many Israelis and Palestinians as a blustery storm, dubbed Alexa, brought gusty winds, torrential rains and heavy snowfall to parts of the Middle East.

(AP Photo/Ariel Schalit)

Sweden:

28 detained after neo-Nazi attack

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Swedish police detained 28 people Sunday after a group of neo-Nazis attacked an anti-Nazism demonstration in a Stockholm suburb by hurling bottles, torches and firecrackers.

Two people were hospitalized and a policeman was injured in the back after being hit by a heavy object, police spokesman Sven-Erik Olsson said.

Olsson said around 200 people participated in the planned, peaceful demonstration in the suburb of Karrtorp when they were at-

tacked by a smaller group of about 40. The demonstration was organized by a local citizen group as a protest against increased neo-Nazi campaigning in the area.

Video footage published by state broadcaster SVT showed families with baby carriages escaping the scene as firecrackers exploded in the middle of the crowd and people were heard screaming. Later, the crowd moved toward the attackers chanting anti-Nazism slogans and forcing them to retreat. □

JINGLE BELL SLOT TOURNAMENT



**SLOTS TO WIN TOURNAMENT
DECEMBER 13 & 20
REGISTRATION 4PM • TOURNAMENT 7PM
3,500 FLORINS UP FOR GRABS!**

Enjoy another perk of being in Paradise and register for our Jingle Bell Slot Tournament today! Buy-in is \$10 and re-buys are 50 points. To reserve your spot, sign-up now at the Advantage® Club. Hurry, tournament is limited to just 150 players!

Management reserves the right to change or cancel promotions at their discretion. Must be 18 years of age or older. Must be a member of the Trop Advantage® Club to participate. Play responsibly www.gamblersanonymous.org.



J.E. IRAUSQUIN BLVD. 248
Aruba, Dutch Caribbean
troparuba.com

TROPICANA ENTERTAINMENT CASINOS | TROPICANACASINOS.COM

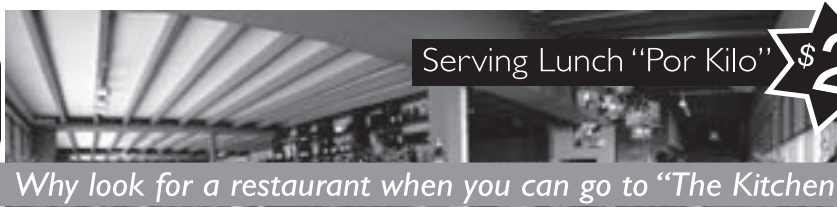


SILVERHOUSE
Jewelry Store

Orario

Dia 16 Dec te 19 Dec nos ta habri di
10am/2pm -3pm/6:30pm
20 dec y 21 10am-7pm
22 dec 10am-2pm
23 dec 10am-7pm
24 dec 10am-5pm

THE KITCHEN
wood fired grill

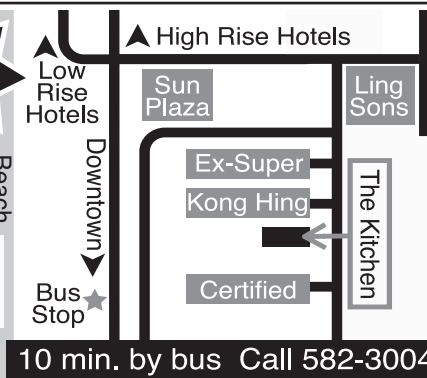


Serving Lunch "Por Kilo" \$2

Why look for a restaurant when you can go to "The Kitchen"

Where the locals eat, so why wouldn't you?

Open for Lunch & Dinner



10 min. by bus Call 582-3004

Assailants stab Japanese diplomat in Yemen attack

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Assailants stabbed a Japanese diplomat stationed in Yemen's capital Sunday when he fought back during a failed kidnapping attempt, officials said, the latest unrest in a country beset by al-Qaida militants. The kidnappers attacked the diplomat not far from the Japanese Embassy in Sanaa, later fleeing with the man's car, a security official said.

The official did not provide the diplomat's name but said he was taken to hospital and that his injuries were not serious. The official spoke on condition of anonymity as he wasn't authorized to speak publicly to journalists.

Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman Masaru Sato confirmed that an embassy official was attacked by an unspecified number of armed robbers as he tried to get into his car.

"We are still in the process of confirming and gathering information about the attack," Sato said. He declined to give further de-



A policeman checks a man at the gate of a hospital where a Japanese diplomat is being treated after assailants stabbed him in Sanaa, Yemen, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013. Assailants stabbed a Japanese diplomat stationed in Yemen's capital Sunday when he fought back during a failed kidnapping attempt, officials said, the latest unrest in a country beset by al-Qaida militants.

(AP Photo/Hani Mohammed)

tails, though he noted that Japan's Foreign Ministry has issued a safety warning to Japanese tourists and residents in the area, citing the increasing danger of attack. Yemeni media identified the diplomat as Katsusuke Sotomini, as

did an official at the embassy in Sanaa who spoke on condition of anonymity due to regulations. An Associated Press journalist some 200 meters (220 yards) away from the embassy found blood stains where the attack appar-

ently took place.

Dr. Atiq al-Maori of the Saudi-Germany Hospital in Sanaa said the diplomat suffered "multiple injuries" to his forearm and shoulder in the attack.

"We will keep him for observation to continue the treatment," the doctor said. "His medical situation is stable." Abductions are frequent in Yemen, an impoverished nation where

armed tribesmen and al-Qaida-linked militants take hostages to swap for prisoners or cash. Yemen is engaged in a rocky political transition since long-time autocrat Ali Abdullah Saleh stepped down in 2012 following mass popular protests. The country's political turmoil has created a security vacuum, which al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula has used to seize large swaths of territory across the restive south. The U.S. regularly carries out drone strikes in the country targeting who it says are militants belonging to the group.

On Dec. 5, al-Qaida militants stormed the Defense Ministry in Sanaa, killing 52 people, including at least seven foreigners. Separately, the country's parliament blamed the US for a recent airstrike in the central city of Radda that killed at least 15 people and asked the government to end the use of Yemeni airspace by US drones to pursue al-Qaida operatives. The government acknowledged the death of civilians in the attack, saying an al-Qaida van had hidden itself in a convoy of civilian cars, later paying compensation to the families of victims. □

Spain: 3 dead from food poisoning

MADRID (AP) — Officials in a southwestern Spanish town say a mother, father and one daughter belonging to the same family have died from food poisoning, and have ordered an investigation into the deaths. Local government spokeswoman Miriam Burgos told state broadcaster RTVE that a 13-year-old girl was the only family member to survive, having emerged Sunday from the intensive care unit of a Seville hospi-

tal after suffering from food poisoning. Reporting from Alcala de Guadaira, 17 kilometers (10.5 miles) east of Seville, RTVE said in its afternoon news bulletin that neighbors of the family had said both parents were unemployed and were known to have accepted free food from local stores. The town hall said in a statement Sunday it had ordered three days of mourning. □

Promenade
RESTAURANT FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1997

- Walking distance
- No Service Charge
- Exceptional Sunday Brunch

L.G. Smith Blvd. 160, Oranjestad, Aruba
Near the Low Rise Hotels
Reservations: (297) 583-8899
Open: Tuesday - Sunday
Hours: 5:00pm - 10:00pm
Sunday Brunch: 11:00am - 3:00pm
promenade@setarnet.aw

www.promenadearuba.com

THE Sopranos
PIANO BAR

LIVE PIANO ENTERTAINMENT at 8pm

BADA BING!

Open daily at 5pm

DAILY
Late Night Special
1am till 2am
2 for 1
on all drinks

Wednesdays
Couples Night
\$4 Heineken Draft
by the glass for the Men
\$4 Champagne by the glass
Ladies

Saturdays
at 8pm
Acoustic Night
Followed by DJ in the MIX till late!

Sing-A-Long Piano Bar

f

Located at Arawak Garden, Palm Beach - tel: (+297) 586 8622 - www.sopranospianobar.com

Venezuela grounds flight over alleged bomb threat

JORGE RUEDA
Associated Press
CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— A Paris-bound flight was rescheduled for Sunday after Venezuela grounded an Air France plane that French intelligence authorities said terrorists might have been planning to blow up. Venezuela and French officials on Sunday did not provide information about the search of the aircraft, or offer details about the earlier tip that a terrorist group was possibly planning to plant an explosive device on the plane and detonate it in midair. Venezuelan Interior Minister Miguel Rodríguez Torres had told state TV late Saturday that more than 60 technicians, bomb experts and a canine team would perform an exhaustive search of the aircraft before the flight could be reprogrammed. Hours after the flight's scheduled departure at 7:25 p.m. Saturday it was unclear when the results of the search would be announced.

The precise nature of the bomb threat was not known, but Rodríguez Torres said that French authorities passed along information from a credible source that a terrorist group was seeking to place a bomb aboard an unspecified flight from Caracas to Paris, or vice versa.

"We don't want to speculate on the motives because the information comes directly from French intelligence services," Rodríguez Torres said.

In Paris, the French Interior Ministry said Sunday that France immediately alerted authorities upon learning of a potential threat to the route, which is served only by Air France.

"It is obviously the prin-

ciple of precaution," said Interior Ministry spokesman Pierre-Henry Brandet. "We cannot allow the least risk, run the least risk for passengers." He provided no details on the measures taken and refused to comment on the nature of the threat or its origin. An Air France press officer who spoke on condition of anonymity because of company policy said the carrier was working "in close collaboration" with airport and government authorities.

Stranded passengers said they had cleared immigration Saturday evening and were preparing to board Air France flight 385 when they were told at the last minute that it was being delayed so that the Airbus A340-300 aircraft could be checked. No reason was given. "We only learned reading Twitter that it could've been a bomb," said Jesus Arandia, a 52-year-old university professor.

About 100 angry passengers surrounded the Air France check-in counter to protest the airline's failure to keep them informed or immediately provide alternative travel arrangements. Around midnight, the airport announced the flight was rescheduled for Sunday afternoon.

"They never told us anything," said Marbella Covino, a 22-year-old student. The Air France office in Paris said Sunday that passengers from the postponed flight were being put on a flight that will leave Caracas at 8 p.m. local time.

Venezuela's intelligence agency declined to comment on the threat, saying it isn't authorized to discuss the case.

Security breaches have been detected before at



Passengers lineup in front of the Air France desk after their flight to Paris was canceled at Simon Bolivar Airport in Maiquetia near Caracas, Venezuela, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013. Venezuelan bomb experts are inspecting a grounded Air France flight after being tipped off by French authorities that a terrorist group may be planning to detonate an explosive device in midair.

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

Venezuela's main international airport.

In September, several Venezuelan soldiers stationed

at the airport were arrested after French authorities made their biggest cocaine bust ever, seizing 1.4

tons of narcotics that were smuggled in 31 suitcases aboard another Air France flight to Paris. □

RAGE
SILVER

RAGE SILVER for the latest trends in Sterling Silver Jewelry

Renaissance Marketplace (Downtown) 9am-9pm Sundays Closed

Palm Beach Plaza Mall (Hotel Area) 10am-10pm Sundays 5-10pm

Best Breakfast on the strip!

Starting at \$11.50
Complete breakfast
coffee or tea included!



Happy Hour
11 to 12 pm

Free WiFi

Daily Live Music on our terrace

Serving Breakfast Lunch & Dinner!

SALT & PEPPER
Aruba & Curaçao
Tapasbar and Restaurant

Arawak Garden, Palm Beach
Tel. (+297) 586 32 80
www.saltandpepperaruba.com

ARUBA WINE & DINING

Bachelet concerned about voter turnout in Chile election

LUIS ANDRES HENAO

Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) —

Michelle Bachelet was almost certain to win Sunday's presidential runoff, riding a wave of hope that brought millions of Chileans to the streets in recent years demanding education reform, environmental protection and a reduction of the country's income inequality.

But concerns of a low turnout worried the once and probable future president, who needs a strong mandate to make good on her promises.

"This is an important day and I hope people can come and participate and through their vote give a clear expression of the kind of Chile where they want to continue to live," Bachelet said after voting in her Santiago neighborhood of La Reina. "The changes we need can't be produced through skepticism."

Bachelet, 62, ended her 2006-2010 presidency with 84 percent approval ratings despite failing to achieve any major changes.

This time, activists are vowing to hold her to promises to raise corporate taxes to help fund an education overhaul and even change the dictatorship-era constitution, a difficult goal given congressional opposition.

Many Chileans blame policies imposed by Gen. Augusto Pinochet's 1973-1990 dictatorship for keeping wealth and power in few hands. Pinochet effectively ended land reform by selling off the nation's water, and preserved the best educations for elites by ending the central control and funding of public schools.

Polls showed Bachelet's

rival, conservative former Finance Minister Evelyn Matthei, was likely to suffer a bruising defeat because of her past support for Pinochet and her ties to outgoing President Sebastian Pinera. The billionaire entrepreneur became Chile's first center-right president since democracy's return, and with just 34 percent support in the latest CEP poll, the most unpopular.

This was Chile's first presidential election after voter registration became automatic, increasing the electorate from 8 million to 13.5 million of the country's nearly 17 million people. But voting became optional with the change, and only 50 percent of voters turned out in the first round, frustrating both the major coalitions.

It also was Chile's first choice between two women, both with long careers in politics. And Bachelet,

a pediatrician, and Matthei, an economist, share a dramatic history: Playmates while growing up on a military base, they found

themselves on opposite sides of Chile's wide political divide after the 1973 military coup.

Matthei's father became

a member of Pinochet's junta while Bachelet's dad was tortured to death for refusing to support the strongman. □



Nun Maria Epifania waits to cast her vote during presidential elections in Santiago, Chile, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013.

(AP Photo/Jorge Saenz)

Germany gets its 1st female defense minister

GEIR MOULSON

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) —

Germany's new government will feature the country's first female defense minister and the return of a respected former foreign minister, while Chancellor Angela Merkel's influential finance chief will stay on as she starts her third term.

Merkel's new "grand coalition" government of right and left is to take office Tuesday — nearly three months after her conservatives won elections, but fell short of a parliamentary majority and saw their previous pro-business coalition partners lose their seats.

Ursula von der Leyen will become defense chief, Merkel said Sunday. The 55-year-old mother of sev-

en inherits the job of modernizing the military, which is being overhauled after Germany abandoned conscription in 2011, and overseeing its deployment in Afghanistan as combat troops depart.

Von der Leyen has helped modernize the image of Merkel's party in her previous roles as minister for families and labor. She "has always been interested in international affairs," Merkel said. "It's an exciting job, also a challenging job, but I trust that she will master it very, very well."

Veteran conservative Wolfgang Schaeuble will stay on as finance minister after four years as Merkel's co-pilot in fighting Europe's debt crisis — underlining continuity in Berlin's approach. The

71-year-old "stands for the stability of the euro and the policies linked with that, for everything that's important in Europe," Merkel said.

The current defense minister, Thomas de Maiziere, returns to his previous job as interior minister, Germany's top security official. He is one of 10 members of the new Cabinet from Merkel's Union bloc; the other six seats went to their new partners, the center-left Social Democrats.

Frank-Walter Steinmeier, who was foreign minister from 2005 to 2009, returns as Germany's top diplomat. The Social Democrats' leader, Sigmar Gabriel, described him as "perhaps Germany's most distinguished foreign policy expert."

Gabriel will become vice chancellor and head a beefed-up Economy Ministry. He will have full oversight of Germany's transition from nuclear to renewable energy, marred by bickering between ministries since Merkel's 2011 move to accelerate the exit from nuclear power.

"We have to make the energy switchover a success," Gabriel said, stressing that it "brings great opportunities for extra jobs, but it must ensure that Germany remains reliable and ... robust as an industrial location." Left-winger Andrea Nahles becomes labor minister, responsible for launching a national minimum wage that was part of the party's price for going into government. □



Jolly Pirates announce for your Sailing pleasure: Enjoy Sunset Sails every day along with two Snorkel options!

MOOMBA BEACH - Aruba's most popular Sailing Adventures feature daily a 4-hour Sail, Snorkel, Swim and Swing - to be specific there's a really cool pirate rope swing attached to the 85ft teak schooner's yard arm. Think Tarzan and then plunging into the sea. Wow!

Aruba's most popular snorkel cruises are offered daily from 9:00am - 1pm with a very tasty, full-service barbecue lunch aboard. Snorkeling at three great sites, proper instruction with snorkel equipment and open bar are also included in the very economical price of only \$60 per person.

Each Afternoon a 3-hour afternoon Snorkel tour which includes the same three sites is also offered Daily from 2:00 - 5:00 pm for only \$45 per person.

Both Snorkel options will bring you to a quiet cove to drop anchor and snorkel at your heart's content. An unforgettable visit to a WWII wreck will amaze you as oodles and oodles of tropical fish will be viewed on the magnificent 400ft



sunken ship, Antilla.

For a very affordable two-hour sunset trip join the Jolly Pirates any afternoon, offered seven days 5:30 - 7:30pm for only \$32 per

person.

All three Jolly Pirates options are family friendly. Each will include an open bar, a bartender who joyfully circulates, while you relax and enjoy Old World charm aboard the teak decked Schooner. Why not, experience the magic of how a little trade wind can snap the Schooner's sails to life with a little yo ho ho... Aruba's friendliest crew of pirates is now wowing delighted guests every day.

Whether it be Sunset Sailing or Snorkeling on Aruba's reefs and Swinging off a rope and singing Yo, Ho, Ho with a cup full of Pirate's Poison, the Jolly Pirates experience is well worth writing home about!

And as the Jolly Pirates celebrate more than another year of outstanding customer satisfaction, Aruba's tourists can look forward to more impressive same

small-business charm.

Jolly Pirates cruises depart from the Moomba area just between the Holiday Inn and Marriott. Please use the Aruba Today val-

ue-added coupon for Jolly Pirates Cruises. Make your reservations by calling 586-8107 or visit the Jolly Pirates Gift Shop at Moomba Beach. ☐





- Attractive Rates • Free Pick-Up
- Fast & Friendly Service
- Free Road Map

Call us for FREE Pick-Up:
583-0200



Orchid welcomes friends and family members



ORANJESTAD - We would like to introduce Orchid to you, one of the donkeys that has found a home at the Aruba Donkey Sanctuary. Before Orchid came to live at the sanctuary, she was a daredevil, sauntering in the middle of the road

together with her daughter Cymbi. This dangerous lifestyle came to an end when the inhabitants of Rooi Master lured her and nine other donkeys into their garden. A trailer took all of them to the sanctuary, where Orchid delivered a son named Gismo after two days. Orchid had a hard time adjusting to life at the sanctuary: she had to get used to the other donkeys as well as to the people there. She was so stressed out that she refused any food during her first two weeks with us, but everything became much better when we succeeded in catching her daughter Cymbi. Their reunion was emotional and very, very happy and from that moment on, life became much more agreeable for Orchid.

This beautiful donkey has been provided with a chip, just like all the other donkeys. On the chip is information about the donkey and its medical history. The donkeys at the sanctuary have a lot of friends with whom they can play all day long. And they love living there: they are well-cared for, they are fed and watered and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers for the sanctuary. The volunteers are trying to cover the various costs with

all kinds of activities and the sale of great donkey memorabilia in the shop. Fortunately, there are also visitors who wish to adopt a donkey, who buy something at the donkey shop or who make a donation. Thus they help support us. Everyone is welcome to visit the sanctuary, which has opening hours from 9 am until 4 pm and in the weekend from 10 am until 3. Entry is free of charge and one can enjoy a soft drink, a cup of coffee or a refreshing ice cream.

The volunteers of the sanctuary are hoping that somebody will adopt this friendly, lovely donkey. Of course the donkey will keep on living at the sanctuary; you only need to pay AWG. 30,- per month for the donkey's keep. With this amount you help support the sanctuary as well as your own donkey. And you will receive a beautiful certificate and a super T-shirt and your name and photo will be posted on our website. So please call the sanctuary at 593-2933; you can also register via the website www.arubandonkey.org or donate money on bank account number 40.03.025 at the Aruba Bank! Just do it! Would you like to follow the donkeys on Facebook: surf to Donkey Sanctuary Aruba please. □

Beauty On The Beach

Tendresse Tritsch

She is from Hengelo, Holland. This is her first time in Aruba, she is staying with locals for one month. She loves the Beach.

WINNER OF TRIP ADVISOR'S CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE 2012
Best Lobster House and International Cuisine's Restaurant





The Blue Lobster
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE & LOBSTER HOUSE
Phone: 586-3843



At Bugaloe:

Aruban Fresh Fish Right Off The Coast!



PALM BEACH - Fresher than Fresh, is what you are served in the popular Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill, located at De Palm Pier, between the RIU Palace Hotel and The Raddison Hotel. Mondays will no longer be just another Monday. No! It's Crazy Fish Monday at Bugaloe! Beautiful colorful platter of exquisite fish, yellow rice and rich vegetables is what you will be served from Chef Hernandez' kitchen every Monday. Whether choosing Fried Fish Basket for only \$15 or a delicious Red Snapper for \$20, you wish it was Monday every



day! Bugaloe is known for fun and craziness, so it was only logical Chef Marc Hernandez likes to go wild when it comes to his cooking. Caught in the morning, served at night



is the true Bugaloe way, maybe this explains its popularity from the start. Crazy Fish Monday is served from 5.30 p.m. till 10 p.m. Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill is open daily from 9 a.m. till midnight. Start your day of right with a delicious cappuccino, or walk in to enjoy a casual lunch in between sunbathing. A few nights a week Bugaloe is host to

some of the best live bands of Aruba, while you are savoring dinner and enjoying the beautiful Aruba Sunset! Don't forget to make one hour in the day even happier at Bugaloe's daily Happy Hour from 5 till 6 p.m. Reservations are not necessary, just follow your hips to the music and the fun and smiles saluting you! ☐







NFL Capsules

Dolphins foil comeback bid, beat Patriots 24-20

The Associated Press

MIAMI GARDENS, Florida

(AP) — Tom Brady's latest comeback bid came up short, and the Miami Dolphins helped their playoff chances with a 24-20 breakthrough victory Sunday over the AFC East-leading New England Patriots. A fourth-down pass from Brady was intercepted by reserve safety Michael Thomas, in his first NFL game, in the end zone with 2 seconds left, and Miami held on to win.

The Patriots had mounted second-half rallies to win their past three games, and Brady moved them from their own 20 with 1:15 remaining to the Miami 14. But he threw three consecutive incompletions before Thomas sealed the third consecutive victory for the Dolphins (8-6), who improved to 5-2 since tackle Jonathan Martin left the team in a bullying scandal. Miami snapped a streak of seven consecutive losses against the Patriots (10-4).



New England Patriots tight end Michael Hoomanawanui (47) grabs a touchdown pass as Miami Dolphins outside linebacker Philip Wheeler (52) defends during the first half of an NFL football game on Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013, in Miami Gardens, Fla.

Associated Press

Continued on page 20



Washington Capitals center Nicklas Backstrom (19), from Sweden, and Philadelphia Flyers defenseman Braydon Coburn (5), watch a goal by Alex Ovechkin, from Russia, go past goalie Steve Mason (35) in the third period of an NHL hockey game, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013, in Washington.

Associated Press

By KEVIN DUNLEAVY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - Alex

Ovechkin scored with 58 seconds left and goalie Phillip Grubauer off for an

Capitals rally to beat Flyers in shootout

extra attacker to cap a late three-goal rally and the Washington Capitals went on to beat the Philadelphia Flyers 5-4 in a shootout Sunday.

Mike Green cut Washington's deficit to 4-2 with 8:40 remaining, and Dmitry Orlov pulled the Capitals within one with 3:31 to go. The two defensemen scored on long slap shots. Ovechkin then tied it with his NHL-leading 28th goal.

He also scored in the first period.

In the shootout, Eric Fehr and Nicklas Backstrom for Washington and Grubauer made two saves on three shots to give Washington an improbable victory in the first meeting of the teams since they brawled at the end of the Capitals' 7-0 victory in Philadelphia on Nov. 1.

Claude Giroux, Mark Streit, Sean Couturier and Jacob

Voracek scored for Philadelphia, and Michael Raffl had three assists.

Washington's Michael Latta and Philadelphia's Zac Rinaldo traded punches and were sent off in the second period. Early in the third, the Capitals Steve Oleksy and the Flyers' Wayne Simmonds received majors for fighting.

The teams will meet again Tuesday night in Philadelphia. □

U.S. men's curling team sweeps to Sochi

FUESSEN, Germany (AP)

— The United States qualified for the men's curling tournament at the Sochi Olympics with an 8-5 play-off victory over the Czech Republic on Sunday.

The Americans, skipped by John Shuster, seized the advantage in the eighth end by scoring five points for a 7-3 lead.

The Czechs pulled two back in the ninth, but Shuster's team of third Jeff Isaacson, second Jared Zezel and lead John Landsteiner ended with another point to secure the last Olympic berth on offer.

The Americans, coached by Tim Muller with Craig Brown at alternate, had kept their qualification hopes alive with a 7-5 win over South Korea in Saturday's tiebreaker.

"We always seem to pick it up and bring it up the next step and find a way

to play better in a game," Landsteiner said.

The U.S. won its final five games at the World Curling Federation's qualification event in the Bavarian town of Fuesen, and the Shuster rink will now be nominated to the U.S. Olympic team pending approval by the United States Olympic Committee.

"The butterflies of winning for an opportunity like this, they never get old. That's why we play this game," said Shuster, who won Olympic bronze in 2006 in the lead position.

"These guys work their tails off and they're some of the best in the business. I'm extremely proud of how well our team has played the entire season and especially here when we had our backs against the wall," the 31-year-old Shuster said.



U.S. curling team members Jared Zezel, left, and John Landsteiner brush the ice during their match against Czech Republic, at an Olympic qualification tournament in Fuesen, Germany. Sunday Dec. 15, 2013.

Associated Press

Jiri Snitil's Czech rink was playing its second play-off in as many days after losing to Germany for the first Olympic berth on Saturday.

China and Japan both qualified for the women's tournament in Sochi next year by winning their decisive playoffs on Sunday. China beat Japan 7-6 in

the playoff between the first and second-ranked teams, and Japan later qualified with a 10-4 victory over third-place Norway. □

3 minutes Walking Distance to the beach

ACQUA

CONDOMINIUMS

The Most Beautiful Condominiums in Aruba with a perfect location

Special offer up to 25% CASH DEAL DISCOUNT

Visit our model suites open **MONDAY** till **FRIDAY** 8:30 - 5:30 / **SATURDAY & SUNDAY**: 10:00 - 2:00
Phone: 586.9696 - email: info@aquaruba.com / www.aquaruba.com



Open 5pm - 1am
The Cove
Restaurant & Lounge
Casual dining with a wide range of traditional dishes served in an intimate setting.
Located inside Alhambra Casino • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • casinoalhambra.com

NFL Capsules

Continued from page 18

4). Ryan Tannehill threw for 312 yards and three touchdown passes, including a 14-yarder to Marcus Thigpen with 1:15 left that provided the winning margin. Brady went 34 for 55 for 364 yards and two scores. Julian Edelman made 13 catches for 139 yards, and Danny Amendola added 10 receptions for 131 yards. **VIKINGS 48, EAGLES 30 MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Matt Cassel passed for 382 yards and two touchdowns and ran for another score to lead the injury-depleted Vikings over Philadelphia, snapping the Eagles' five-game winning streak. With Adrian Peterson and Toby Gerhart out, Matt Asiata rushed for the first three touchdowns of his career and Greg Jennings caught a career-high 11 passes for 163 yards for the Vikings (4-9-1). Asiata ran for 51 yards on 30 carries. Nick Foles threw for 428 yards with three touchdowns and one interception and DeSean Jackson had 10 catches for 195 yards and a score for the Eagles (8-6). They started the day with a one-game lead over Dallas in the NFC East. Playing for pride and probably coach Leslie Frazier's job, the Vikings produced quite the spoiler performance against the previously surging Eagles. **FALCONS 27, REDSKINS 26 ATLANTA (AP)** — Desmond Trufant deflected Kirk Cousins' pass on a potential winning 2-point conversion with 18 seconds remaining, and the Atlanta Falcons edged the Washington Redskins. The Falcons (4-10) scored 20 points off seven Washington turnovers. The Redskins (3-11) tied a team re-

cord with five lost fumbles. Cousins passed for 381 yards and three touchdowns, but had three turnovers in his first start of the season after coach Mike Shanahan decided to bench Robert Griffin III. Griffin watched from the sideline. Cousins' touchdown pass to Santana Moss gave Washington a chance to force overtime by kicking the extra point. Instead, Cousins' attempted go-ahead 2-point pass for Pierre Garcon was deflected by Trufant. Steven Jackson ran for two touchdowns for Atlanta. Alfred Morris had 98 yards rushing, but lost two fumbles for Washington. **49ERS 33, BUCCANEERS 14 TAMPA, Florida (AP)** — Vernon Davis caught a touchdown pass for the fifth straight game and Michael Crabtree scored his first TD since returning from injury to help the San Francisco 49ers beat the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. The victory was the fourth straight for Colin Kaepernick and the 49ers (10-4), who pulled away for good with a 10-minute, fourth-quarter drive that produced a field goal. Kendall Hunter put it well out of reach, scooping up a fumble on the ensuing kickoff and diving 2 yards into the end zone for a touchdown. Tampa Bay got within 20-14 on Mike Glennon's TD pass to Tim Wright on the first play of the fourth quarter. The Bucs (4-10) didn't get the ball back until after Kaepernick used 17 plays to march the 49ers 77 yards into position for Phil Dawson to kick one of his four field goals, extending his franchise-record streak of consecutive successful attempts to 24. Kaepernick completed 19 of 29 passes for 203 yards, two touchdowns and no interceptions. Frank Gore



Seattle Seahawks defensive end Michael Bennett, bottom, forces a fumble off New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning during the second half of an NFL football game on Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013, in East Rutherford, N.J. The Giants recovered their fumble on the play.

Associated Press

rushed for 86 yards to go over 1,000 in a season for the seventh time in his career. Glennon was 18 of 34 for 179 yards, two touchdowns and one interception. **SEAHAWKS 23, GIANTS 0 EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (AP)** — Richard Sherman had two interceptions, Marshawn Lynch scored on a twisting, triple-effort 2-yard run, and Steven Hauschka kicked three field goals as Seattle manhandled the New York Giants for its sixth road win. Russell Wilson toyed with New York's defense, running for 50 yards and throwing for 206 and a touchdown before sitting out the last few minutes. Wilson has 23 wins, the most for a quarterback in his first two seasons in the Super Bowl era. The Seahawks (12-2) are closing in on the NFC West title and their best overall record; they went 13-3 in 2005 before losing to Pittsburgh in the Super Bowl. Eli Manning was picked off a career-worst five times, with Byron Maxwell also

getting two. The Giants (5-9) have their first losing record since 2004, and lost top receiver Victor Cruz to a concussion in the fourth quarter. Cruz is 2 yards short of his third straight 1,000-yard season. **BEARS 38, BROWNS 31 CLEVELAND (AP)** — Jay Cutler shook off some early rustiness and threw three touchdown passes in his first start since Nov. 10, leading Chicago past Cleveland. Cutler, who missed Chicago's previous four games with a sprained left ankle, threw a 4-yard TD pass to Earl Bennett with 5:41 left as Bears (8-6) rallied in the second half and stayed in contention for an NFC playoff spot. Cutler finished 22 of 31 for 265 yards and validated coach Marc Trestman's decision to stick with him over backup Josh McCown, who had played well while filling in for Chicago's starter. Michael Bush's 40-yard TD run with 2:17 left sealed it for the Bears, who completed a four-game sweep of the AFC North and won

their first road game since Nov. 4, when McCown led them to a win over Green Bay. Tashuan Gipson returned an interception 44 yards for a TD and T.J. Ward had a 51-yard TD fumble return for the Browns (4-10). Jason Campbell finished 23 of 39 for 273 yards and one touchdown, a 43-yarder to Josh Gordon. **COLTS 25, TEXANS 3 INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** — Andrew Luck threw two touchdown passes, and Robert Mathis broke Indianapolis' single-season and career sacks records by forcing a second-half safety to lead the Colts past Houston. Luck finished 19 of 32 for 180 yards with one interception and needed only two quarters to put up 20 points, four short of Indy's combined first-half point total from the previous six games. Mathis, the NFL sacks leader, now has 16½ this season and 108 in his career, breaking the franchise records held by longtime teammate and close friend Dwight Freeney. □



Jameis Winston wins the Heisman Trophy

RALPH D. RUSSO

**AP College Football Writer
NEW YORK (AP)** — Florida

State quarterback Jameis Winston won the Heisman Trophy on Saturday for college football's best player with a performance so dominant that even a criminal investigation couldn't derail his candidacy.

Winston became the second straight player to win the prestigious award in his first year of college, following Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel last year. He is also the youngest winner at 23 days short of 20 years old.

"I cannot explain the feeling that I have inside right

now," Winston said. "I'm so overwhelmed. It's awesome."

Winston is the nation's top-rated passer and has led the top-ranked Seminoles to the college football title game against No. 2 Auburn in January. Florida State's average margin of victory this season is 42 points.

The quarterback was investigated last month for a year-old sexual assault, but no charges were filed and the case was closed four days before Heisman votes were due.

A female student at Florida State had accused Winston of rape. Winston's attorney said the sex was

consensual.

Winston continued to play as the Florida state attorney's office investigated the complaint. The investigation has taken some of the shine off Winston's Heisman coronation, at least for some.

But if the question is simply who was college football's best player in 2013, Winston was the clear answer.

Winston is on pace (190.1) to break quarterback Russell Wilson's record for best passer efficiency rating in a season and set Football Bowl Subdivision freshman records for yards passing (3,820) and touchdown passes (38).



Florida State quarterback Jameis Winston, right, stands with FSU coach Jimbo Fisher while holding the Heisman Trophy after winning the award on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2013, in New York.

Associated Press

He received 668 first-place votes and 2,205 points, finishing well ahead of Alabama quarterback AJ McCarron in second place. Northern Illinois quarterback Jordan Lynch was third, followed by Boston

College's Andre Williams, Manziel and Auburn's Tre Mason.

Manziel was the first freshman to win the Heisman and was trying to join Ohio State's Archie Griffin as a two-time winner. □

Brown says he wasn't meeting his own standard

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — For a decade, Mack Brown and the Texas Longhorns won more games than almost any other program in the country.

It was the inability to meet those lofty expectations over the last four years that pushed Brown to resign after 16 years, ending an era that included the national championship following the 2005 season.

"The standard is really high here," Brown said Sunday at a campus news conference to explain his decision. "We set a standard at this place. You'd better win all of them. I understand that. ... The standard is really high here and I'm proud of being part of setting that standard."

From 2000-09, Brown's teams averaged more



In this Oct. 6, 2012, file photo, Texas coach Mack Brown calls for a timeout during the third quarter of an NCAA college football game against West Virginia in Austin, Texas.

Associated Press

than 10 wins a season, captured two Big 12 titles, won a national title and played for another. But the program dipped sharply to 5-7 in 2010, Brown's only losing season, and the Longhorns have lost at least four games for four consecutive

years.

Brown said he knew that wasn't good enough. It was time to find a new coach to guide the Longhorns back among the national elite and heal a fractured fan base that had grown impatient. His final game

will be the Dec. 30 Alamo Bowl against Oregon.

Brown was under contract until 2020 with a salary at more than \$5 million per year. He will stay on as a special consultant to President Bill Powers, a role that his current contract stipulates would pay him up to \$500,000. Details of any further compensation for Brown were not immediately available.

Texas had expected a return to championship form this season, but a 1-2 start ignited months of speculation that Brown would retire or be forced out. Texas rallied with six straight wins, then dropped two of its last three games. A chance to win the Big 12 title was lost to Baylor in the finale.

Brown met with Powers and athletic director Steve Patterson on Friday to discuss his future. Brown said both

told him he could stay, but after sleeping on it Friday night and talking it over with his wife, he decided it was the right time to resign. "I felt like I could stay," Brown said. "I really felt like it wasn't best for the university to stay." Powers said he was not pressured by the school's board of regents to help push Brown out of the job. "I was not given any direction at all from any regent," Powers said. "This is the transition of one of the great football coaches in the country." Brown said he hoped he would be remembered for "bringing joy to Texas" and doing it with integrity. Asked if he had any regrets, Brown said the only ones were the death of player Cole Pittman in 2001 and the 1999 accident with the Texas A&M bonfire that killed 12. □

Stewart and Connor Cink win Father/Son Challenge



Connor Cink hugs his father Stewart Cink as they celebrate Stewart's putt on the 18th hole during the Father/Son Challenge at the Ritz-Carlton Golf Club in Orlando, Fla., Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013.

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — Stewart and Connor Cink won the Father/Son Challenge on Sunday, making two eagles in their final five holes for a three-stroke victory in the scramble event. Connor Cink, a Clemson freshman who preferred hockey over golf as a teen, put the duo in front with a 30-foot eagle at No. 14.

His father capped the day with a 20-foot eagle putt at No. 18, the last of nine consecutive 3s in a back-nine 27. They finished with an 11-under 61 for 22-under total.

Steve and Sam Elkington and Vijay and Qass Singh tied for second. The Singhs shot 61, and the Elkingtons had a 63. □

Kuchar, English win Shootout, set tourney mark

NAPLES, Florida (AP) — Matt Kuchar and Harris English set a tournament course record by finishing at 34 under at the Franklin Templeton Shootout on Sunday. Kuchar and English beat the duo of Retief Goosen and Freddie Jacobson at the Tiburon Golf Resort's Gold course. The winners shot 25 under in their last 28 holes. Playing Sunday under a scramble format, they shot a 14-under 58. Goosen and Jacobson cut their deficit to three

shots after three holes before Kuchar and English warmed up. They were 11-under 61 for the day and 27-under for the tournament. Finishing third were Lee Westwood and Ian Poulter, who had a 13-under 59 and went 26 under overall. Chris DiMarco and Billy Horschel were in fourth at 24 under.

Host Greg Norman and partner Jonas Blixt tied Steve Stricker/Jerry Kelly and Graham DeLaet/Mike Weir at 19 under. □

Andy Murray voted BBC sports personality of 2013

LONDON (AP) — Wimbledon champion Andy Murray was voted the BBC's 60th Sports Personality of the Year on Sunday, winning the accolade after becoming the first British man to lift the trophy at the All England Club in 77 years.

The 26-year-old Scot ended one of the longest droughts in British sport by beating Novak Djokovic in straight sets in July.

Murray was presented with the BBC award on Sunday in Florida by 18-time grand slam singles champion Martina Navratilova as training commitments prevented him from traveling to the ceremony in the English city of Leeds.

Sometimes derided for an apparently dour personality, Murray made light of his personality after collecting the trophy.



In this photo made available by the BBC, British Broadcasting Corporation, British tennis player Andy Murray poses with his award, in Miami, Florida, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013.

Associated Press

"I know I'm sometimes not the easiest person to support but I've had a lot of

pressure on me for a long time and I'm just glad I finally managed to break through," Murray said. "No matter how excited I try to sound my voice still sounds incredibly boring. But I'm actually incredibly excited right now. That's just my voice. I'm sorry."

Murray received 401,470 votes ahead of British and Irish Lions fullback Leigh Halfpenny on 65,913 and horse racing great Tony McCoy on 57,854.

To mark the show's 60th year, a special diamond achievement award was presented to Alex Ferguson, who retired as Manchester United manager in May after more than 26 years in charge of the club. Sebastian Vettel succeeded Usain Bolt as the overseas award winner after claiming his fourth consecutive Formula One title. □

Sergio Garcia wins Thailand Championship

CHONBURI, Thailand (AP) — Sergio Garcia shot a final-round 68 to beat Henrik Stenson by four strokes and win the Thailand Golf Championship at the Amata Spring Country Club on Sunday.

The 33-year-old Spaniard, who held the lead since the second round, turned in a solid final round that featured six birdies and two bogeys to finish on 22-under 266.

The victory is Garcia's first this year with his last win coming at the Johor Open, an Asian Tour event in Malaysia last December.

"It was great, an amazing week," said Garcia, who has now won four Asian Tour titles in his career. "I'm very, very happy and I can't wait to go back home to Switzerland and kind of sleep on it a little bit. "I knew Henrik was going to make it difficult for me. He's been playing



Spain's Sergio Garcia tees off the 2nd hole during the third round of the HSBC Champions golf tournament at the Sheshan International Golf Club in Shanghai, China, Saturday, Nov. 2, 2013.

Associated Press

so amazingly great, and he did. I started well, but he also did. He kept hitting good shot after good shot," Garcia added.

Garcia raised some eyebrows by playing with his girlfriend, Katharina Boehm, as his caddie this week, but the partnership has proved to be effective. Sweden's Stenson, who recently made history when he became the first

player to win the Race to Dubai and the FedEx Cup, matched Garcia's 68 in his final round for an 18-under 270 total. "It was a good week. Especially (because) I've had a great year but coming here really on the fumes left in the tank, not too much going for me to perform this week in that sense. But ... I was hanging in there and I was just coming up a couple short," Stenson said. "I needed something really, really good to happen there. I had a couple of chances to get a little bit close around 8 and 9 but I didn't make those two birdie putts and Sergio was hanging in there, made one or two good saves and then he made three birdies in a row, and then he pulled away, and then really I would need something spectacular to happen the last four or five holes." □

red sail sports Sunset Sail

Watch the sun go down aboard one of our luxurious catamarans. This relaxing sail includes hors d'oeuvres and open bar.

5:30 to 7:30 pm daily except Tuesday and Wednesday

Book now! www.redsailaruba.com or by phone: (+297) 586-1603



Marcos Maidana unanimously outpoints Adrien Broner

RAUL DOMINGUEZ

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Marcos Maidana overpowered Adrien Broner to take the WBA welterweight championship, knocking him down twice in a unanimous decision Saturday night.

Maidana was dominant in handing Broner his first loss in 28 bouts. After the judges' scores of 115-110, 116-109 and 117-109 were announced in favor of the Argentine boxer, Broner ran out of the ring.

"I had to show a lot of heart to win this fight," Maidana said. "I did what I had to do to win."

Broner is nicknamed "The Problem," but Maidana (35-3) had the answer with power that the three-time world champion had never faced before.

"I'm OK. I'm still the three-time world champion in three different weight classes," Broner said. "Tonight, Maidana was just the better man, but we fought a hell of a fight."

With the victory, Maidana set up a possible fight against Keith Thurman, who stopped Jesus Soto Karass in the ninth round on the undercard.

Maidana landed 231 of 663 power punches while connecting on only 38 jabs. The power stunned the confident Broner, who was unable to use the fluid counter-punching that



Marcos Rene Maidana, right, lands a punch on Adrien Broner, left, during an WBA welterweight title bout, Saturday, Dec. 14, 2013, in San Antonio.

Associated Press

had resulted in 22 knockouts and made him one of the sport's top stars. Maidana staggered Broner early in the opening round with an overhand right to the back of the head, causing the American to stumble trying to regain his footing.

Maidana then sent Broner tumbling into the ropes early in the second round with a lunging left hook to the chin. After a standing eight count, Broner charged and wrapped up Maidana's upper legs in an attempt to recover.

Maidana landed 57 punch-

es in the opening two rounds to only 13 for Broner. But the American regained his balance, spending the next five rounds trading punches and clenches before Maidana took control. Maidana floored Broner in the eighth round with a left to the midsection and an

overhand right. After another standing eight count, Broner was hit in the jaw by Maidana's head and went to the canvas again. Maidana pummeled Broner again in the ninth round, unleashing combination after combination the American struggled to avoid. □



TONY ROMA'S®

RIBS • SEAFOOD • STEAKS

I made a mess! But it was worth it.

OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH & DINNER | NOON - 11PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION & RESERVATION PLEASE CALL 586-7427 / J.E. IRAUSQUIN BLVD. #230, PALM BEACH-ARUBA

The Ultimate Holiday Stocking Stuffer: Cash

TARA SIEGEL BERNARD
© 2013 New York Times

All Elizabeth Starkey wants for Christmas is a little help paying her student loans. With a monthly payment topping \$1,000, the 31-year-old digital designer for Bravo, the cable television network, said that even a small contribution would provide some breathing room.

"The only things I really need are a new computer, which is more than anyone wants to spend, or student loan money," Starkey said, who owes more than \$51,000. "That is the biggest burden for me, financially, other than rent." So after she learned about a new service that allows people to send cash gifts to student loan providers, Starkey alerted her family through her Facebook page and Twitter. But she's not terribly optimistic that they'll comply.

"People said, 'I want to get you something fun,'" she said. "But I live in New York and I don't have room for things. I pay \$1,023 in student loans, and it kills me. Even \$100 toward that would be helpful."

Cash gifts are often written

off as too impersonal or, as in Starkey's case, not festive enough. But as you're scrambling to find the perfect something for a loved one, particularly the students and graduates who collectively hold about \$1.2 trillion in student debt, a

little financial wiggle room might be exactly what they want and need.

Beyond help with student loans, there are a variety of ways to give more personalized money gifts, whether you're shopping for an aspiring retiree or a young

adult. Here are some ideas, with instructions on how to minimize taxes and other unintended consequences.

PLAIN CASH: If you're not too concerned about exactly how your gift is spent, there's nothing easier than

old-fashioned cash. Individuals can legally give gifts of up to \$14,000 to as many people as they wish in 2013, with no tax consequences. That means a couple could potentially give up to \$28,000 per person.



Cash gifts are often written off as too impersonal, or not festive enough, but as you're scrambling to find the perfect something for a loved one, particularly students and graduates who collectively hold about \$1.2 trillion in student debt, a little financial wiggle room might just be exactly what they want and need.

(Robert Neubecker/The New York Times)

STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS: There are a few ways to help graduates chip away at debt. Anyone can make a payment on behalf of a borrower by check, although you need to know the loan servicer, the borrower's account number and the monthly payment amount, according to student loan experts.

A more effective method is to send a letter with your check that states that the money should be used to prepay or reduce the principal of the loan and not for a future loan payment. Also request that the money be applied to the loan with the highest interest rate, if the lender has multiple loans for the borrower, said Mark Kantrowitz, a senior vice president and publisher of Edvisors, an informational website about paying for college.

A new service, through Tuition.io, makes this easier, since it requires only that you know the gift recipient's email address. After the gift-giver pays by credit card, the recipient receives a plain or holiday-themed email telling her about the gift and then directs the recipient to the Tuition.io website, where she enters personal information. Tuition.io, which also offers loan budgeting information, then shuttles the payment to the loan servicer.

There are caveats: The gift, limited to a maximum of \$500, will apply to future loan payments only (although the company said it was working on ways to make principal payments). The gift-maker will also be charged a credit card processing fee of 2.9 percent (plus 30 cents), and a 3.5 percent transaction fee.

Charter prepares offer for Time Warner Cable

DAVID GELLES
© 2013 New York Times

Charter Communications is preparing to make an offer to buy Time Warner Cable, according to people briefed on the matter. The offer, likely to come in the form of a so-called bear hug letter, would consist of a mix of cash and Charter stock, setting in motion a new round of consolidation in the cable operator industry.

Charter could make its offer as early as next week. The plan was reported earlier by Bloomberg News, but all parties involved have declined to comment.

The deal would have an equity value of around \$38 billion.

Charter has been vocal

about its appetite for a deal with Time Warner Cable, the second-largest cable operator after Comcast. In recent months, as speculation about the deal has increased, Time Warner Cable's stock has surged from around \$94 per share to as high as \$138.22 per share. Shares closed at \$131.41 on Friday.

Those knowledgeable of Charter's plans say the company is confident it can succeed with offering a small premium above the current trading price because of the steep run up in recent months.

Charter is being advised by LionTree Advisors, a boutique investment bank run by former UBS head of mergers and acquisitions

Aryeh Bourkoff, and Goldman Sachs.

Behind the scenes, however, media mogul John Malone - who once sold the country's largest cable operator, TCI, to AT&T and earlier this year acquired 27 percent of Charter through his holding company, wLiberty Media - is encouraging Charter to make a bid for Time Warner Cable. Liberty Media's chief executive, Greg Maffei, also favors the deal.

Though Charter would have to take on significant debt to pay for Time Warner Cable, people familiar with the company's thinking believe it is a manageable amount, and the combined company could pay it down quickly.

Time Warner Cable could support a larger debt load, they said.

Meanwhile, Time Warner Cable appears in no rush to do a deal.

Though its pay television subscribers are falling, it continues to find success providing high speed internet and business services. Earlier this year, Time Warner Cable approached Comcast about a merger. Such a deal would unite the two largest cable operators and face close antitrust scrutiny.

Nonetheless, Comcast appears to be taking the invitation seriously.

Comcast has hired JPMorgan to advise it, a move that gives Comcast access to one of Wall Street's biggest balance sheets. □

Continued on Page 27



THE PELICAN NEST
Bar & Seafood Grill

Early Bird Dinner

Come & see the spectacular Sunset & receive a 10% discount on your dinner, between 5:30 & 7 pm, by presenting this Ad.

Our menu offer an impressive selection of Fresh Seafood
(caught daily by our own fleet), International Dishes and a relaxing Atmosphere.

DAILY HAPPY HOUR

at our Captain's Morgan Bar from 4 - 6 pm \$4 Bar.
Open from 11 am - 10 pm

For Reservations call: 5662259
Located between Holiday Inn Hotel & Playa Linda Resort www.pelican-aruba.com



Sullivan Column:

For top earners, a bigger tax bite this year

PAUL SULLIVAN

© 2013 New York Times

Less than a year ago, people were worried about a variety of tax increases in 2013, from income and investment taxes going up to the exemption on estate and gift taxes going down. This year, without any last-minute negotiation around major tax policy, people are far less focused on taxes, and that has accountants and tax lawyers worried.

"A lot of individual taxpayers are in for a huge shock when they file their taxes," said Brittney Saks, U.S. personal financial services leader for PricewaterhouseCoopers. "If you had the exact same income in 2012 and 2013, your taxes can be significantly different."

She noted that income and capital gains tax rates had risen, a new Medicare tax on wages and investment earnings was introduced, and itemized deductions had been reduced for high earners. These changes generally affect the top 5 percent of earners, but that group could find itself with a tax bill 10 percent higher than last year, all other things being equal, she said.

Joe Perry, partner in charge of tax and business services at Marcum, took his analysis a step further. He looked at his firm's 1,200 individual clients who made more than \$400,000 a year - the threshold for all the highest rates, new taxes and reduced deductions to kick in. He calculated that they were looking at paying 7 percent more this year, but then he translated that into a real number: It equated to \$250 million more.

"People will focus on the percentages until they see

what that dollar amount is, and then they're going to be shocked," Perry said.

While most of these clients have been paying estimated taxes throughout the year, most have been paying the minimum to avoid incurring a penalty, he said. Like other accountants, he is concerned that come tax day these people are going to have a bill that will not just shock them but may cause some to scramble to come up with the money.

In other words, 2013 should

gift tax exemption.

First things first: People need to understand what their tax risks are as they move up the income ladder. Individuals earning more than \$200,000 a year and couples earning more than \$250,000 are subject to a 0.9 percent Medicare tax on their wages; those are the same income levels for the 3.8 percent Medicare tax on investment income. (The law applies the surtax to the lower of either the modified adjusted gross income or net investment

tion - the \$3,900 deduction that people and their dependents get just for being alive.

"The calculations are getting more complicated," said Monica Rebella, a certified public accountant in Southern California. "It's going to be small things that get people." For example, losing the personal exemption for a family of four means \$15,600 in deductions just disappeared, she said. There are several things people can't control. Re-

distributions from a family company or rental income on properties that someone else maintains. This income is subject to the 3.8 percent surtax, unless people can show that they are actively involved in the business.

This is even trickier with a family business, where, say, the daughter is running the company and her brother is not involved. Her distribution of profits would not be subject to the 3.8 percent surtax, but his would be, Foss said.

With real estate, there may be more wiggle room, despite clear requirements on what counts as involvement.

"If you have a full-time job and are renting these properties out, you probably can't claim them," Perry said. "But your spouse might be able to, and it makes a difference this year."

On assets subject to the 3.8 percent tax, like real estate that needs work, there is an opportunity to apply deductions to the income from them. But so far the Internal Revenue Service has not offered guidance beyond saying the deductions need to be reasonable - wording that will no doubt encourage some to push the boundaries of reason. One bright spot on income taxes: Unlike past years, the alternative minimum tax is not in flux, so calculating it is, at least, easier. The downside is that the calculation is always to determine which tax is higher. Another bright spot is that, even though 57 provisions are set to expire this year if they are not extended before year-end, the expiration of only a few of them will have a broad impact on individuals. □



Joe Perry, a partner in charge of tax and business services at Marcum, at his office in New York. Tax policy has stayed out of the headlines this year, but higher rates, new laws and disappearing deductions mean that higher-income taxpayers are likely to pay more.

(Michael Appleton/The New York Times)

be a more stressful time for tax planning than it has been.

There are several planning considerations for people, particularly those on the cusp of various tax increases and deduction limitations.

The biggest is to understand how the new Medicare taxes are going to affect them. But several popular deductions are also set to end, and there are lingering opportunities with the new estate and

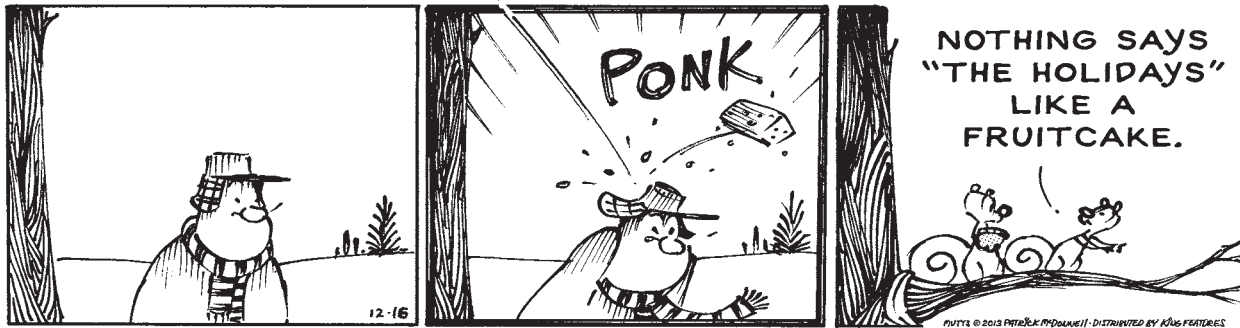
income.)

Itemized deductions will be reduced for individuals earning more than \$250,000 and couples earning more than \$300,000 a year. People making more than \$400,000 a year and couples making more than \$450,000 will face the highest marginal taxes on income (39.6 percent) and capital gains (20 percent) in addition to the 3.8 percent Medicare surtax. At that point, taxpayers even lose their personal exemp-

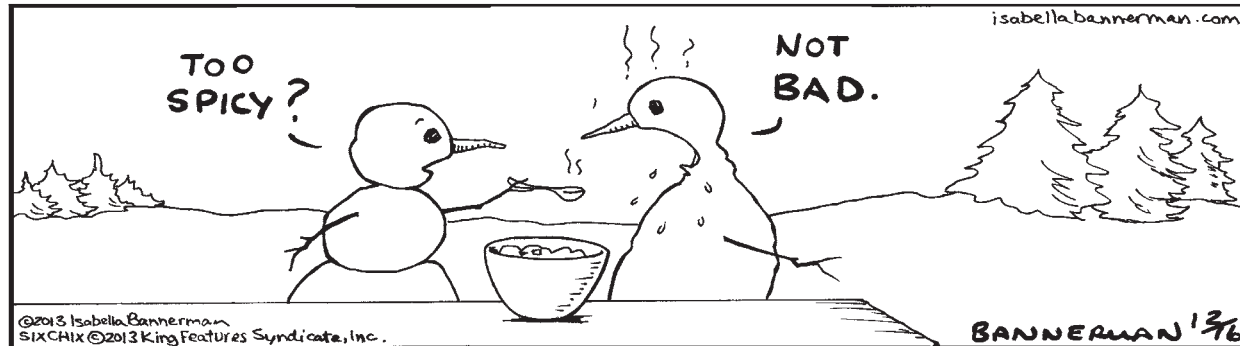
tion. bella pointed out that take-home pay had already gone down for people who have earned \$200,000 to date. That is because companies are required to start withholding the 0.9 percent Medicare tax above that amount. Because the 0.9 percent tax would not have been withheld from that spouse's income, the couple will end up owing more.

Where planning is not so easy is for people who receive passive income - say

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



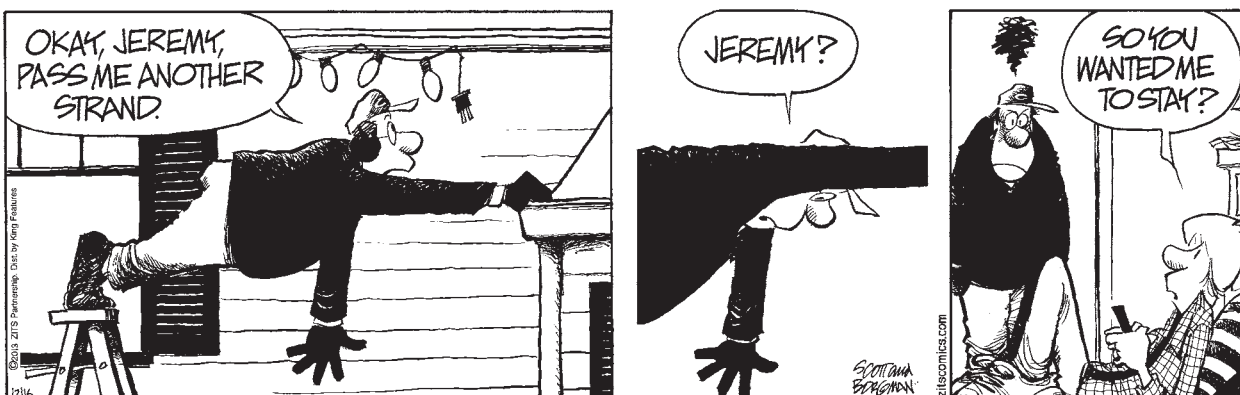
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

9	6			4			2	8
2		4	5	9		3		7
			8					
						2	6	
6	4		3	7	5		8	9
	5	1						
					9			
1		6		3	7	8		4
4	3			1			9	2

Difficulty Level ★

12/16

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

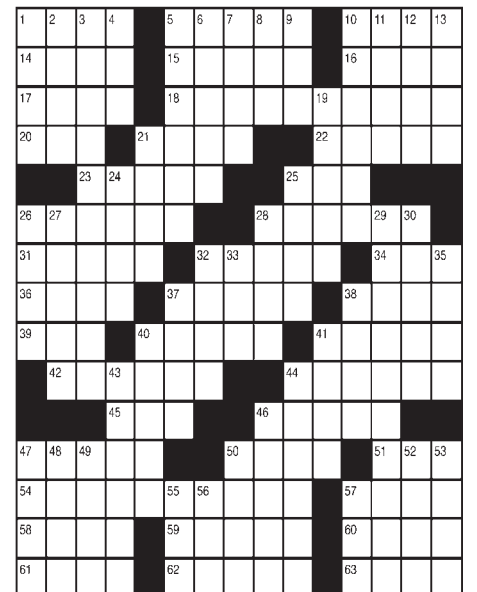
1	5	2	4	9	6	8	3	7
7	4	3	5	8	2	6	9	1
8	6	9	7	1	3	2	4	5
2	8	4	3	7	5	1	6	9
3	9	7	6	2	1	4	5	8
6	1	5	9	4	8	3	7	2
5	3	1	2	6	7	9	8	4
9	7	8	1	3	4	5	2	6
4	2	6	8	5	9	7	1	3

ACROSS

- Policemen
- Terrible
- Get just one's feet wet
- Region
- __ apso; small long-haired dog
- Declare openly
- What to press after typing an email
- Sort into groups
- Donkey
- Internal spy
- Deadly snake
- Furious
- Dublin's nation: abbr.
- Quantity
- Make a fist
- Cotton __; carnival snack
- Burn with liquid
- Big success
- Aspen or alder
- Housetops
- Taxi rider
- Gentleman
- Bridal __; pricey hotel booking
- Wild brawl
- Attack
- Farmlands
- Cheap metal
- In a __; sort of
- Curl the upper lip and growl
- __ Row; poor part of town
- Negative vote
- Islamabad residents
- Meanie
- Heroic tale
- Leaning
- Mantilla
- Fender bender memento
- Answer
- Letters insisting on urgency

DOWN

- Spanish house
- Raw metals



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

12/16/13

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

BAR	PACED	CHOP
OWED	ATONE	OAHU
YEAR	MINDS	BLIP
SLEEPLESS	WOOS	
SWAT	EW	
SASSES	SCRABBLE	
ALTER	SPOTS	RAN
BIAS	PULLS	DONT
EBB	REMIT	JUICE
RISKIEST	CALLER	
APR	RAIL	
THAI	LEGISLATE	
RUBS	EVENT	ROAD
OGLE	SENSE	DESI
DEER	SNEER	DYE

(c) 2013 Tribune Content Agency, LLC
All Rights Reserved.

12/16/13

- Spoil
- Charges
- Jib & spinnaker
- Obey
- No-nonsense
- Spunky; not afraid to argue
- Ability
- Drove too fast
- Back of the neck
- Related
- Make a tiny cut
- Opera solo
- Sharp shrill cry
- Paver's goo
- Consumed
- Eggs: Lat.

Continued from Page 24

So a \$100 gift would amount to \$106.70.

TUITION HELP: Anybody can pay for some or all of a student's tuition directly, whether it's a credit hour at a community college or a year at a pricey private school. There are no gift tax implications, as long as the payment is made directly to the institution. The same goes for medical debts.

But if you pay a big chunk of college tuition, or even provide a large cash gift, it could hurt the student's ability to get financial aid. One workaround is to give the cash to the parent, since cash support to parents isn't reported as untaxed income on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or Fafsa, and generally has a minimal impact on federal aid, he explained.

RETIREMENT MONEY: Anyone can open a Roth individual retirement account - where contributions are made with money that's been taxed, and withdrawals come out tax-free - for another person. Adults can also open custodial accounts for children at brokerages like Vanguard or Charles Schwab. But if the account owner is over

18, he will need to sign the authorization documents. You can also make a gift to an existing account. But the gift recipient will need to have earned income at least equal to the amount of any contributions to the account, said Mark Luscombe, a principal analyst at CCH Tax & Accounting, and singles must earn less than \$127,000. This year, the maximum total contribution to a Roth (or traditional) IRA is \$5,500.

APPRECIATED STOCK: Given the stock market's ascent over the last few years, you may be sitting on stock that has also risen appreciably. If you give those shares to a relative or friend in a lower tax bracket, she can sell them for cash and may pay far less in capital gains taxes than you would. The gift recipient could also use the proceeds to reinvest in broad-based index fund within that new Roth IRA you helped set up.

But parents who give stock to younger children may not achieve the same sort of tax savings. The kiddie tax may apply if the child is under age 19 and in some cases up until age 24 if he is a full-time student and still receiving parental support. In that case, the child would still pay capital gains taxes at the parents'

rate, Luscombe explained.

FINANCIAL ADVICE: Maybe a parent has an adult child who needs assistance organizing his financial life, because he just experienced a big life event such as a marriage or the birth of a child. Or maybe someone wants to send a parent to a certified financial planner as she contemplates the hard questions of retirement. Some advisers offer gift certificates, including planners through the Garrett Planning Network.

LearnVest, an online financial advisory, offers gift certificates via email. The gift giver can either pay for the setup fee (\$399), or an entire package, which includes the fee and an entire year of support.

CONSUMER DEBT: Helping pay down a loved one's credit card debt can help ease some stress at the start of the new year. □

Classifieds

FOR SALE - RENT Timeshare Sale-Rent Paradise Villas

Wk 2 Studio Jan 12 Rent \$660
Sale \$2600 also Divi Resort
Studios from 3/15 to 12/13 2014
\$3100 or Rent \$665,
one Br \$3400 or Rent \$765
E-mail: rmwjmw@aol.com
Phone: 508-651-0016

200579

FOR RENT Tropicana Resort

1 week 1 bedroom
27 Dec. to 3 Jan
1,300 Dollars
Phone 568-9991
call after 5 pm

200577

STUDIO

La Cabana
15 to 22 Dec.
US\$700
Phone 568-9991
call after 5 pm

200577

FOR SALE

La Cabana week 49
12/6 start one bed room unit
105 C pool floor recently
remodeled, all amenities \$2700
AL OFFERS CONSIDERED
e-mail: rmwjmw@aol.com
phone: 508-651-0016

200458

FOR SALE

Caribbean Palm Village (deeded)
E 107 first floor pool side
(renovated)
week 1 thru 5
1 bedroom 2 bath \$10,000
p/week
email: np7300@roadrunner.com
phone: USA 440-428-4631

200451

FOR SALE

Condo in Gold Coast
Everything's included in this
2 Br 2 1/2 bath unit check it out
now at www.arubarental.info
or call 562-0735 free pick up

200574



DOCTOR ON DUTY Oranjestad

Dr. Wijngaarde

EMERGENCIA 911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	584-5050

PHARMACY

O'STAD: Oduber Tel: 582-1780
S. NICOLAS: San Lucas Tel: 584-5119

INFORMATION	118
SETAR	582-2116
TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

CRUISESHIP

Dec. 16 Emerald Princess Monarch

Aruba Airport	524-2424
American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Dutch Antilles	588-1900
Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
Spirit Airlines	582-7117
Tiara Air	588-4272
Venezolana	583-7674

FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP CLINIC

Tel: 584-6440
Alcoholism & Drug Addiction,
Anonymity guaranteed

FUNDACION

Anti-Droga
Aruba
(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

FUNDACION

Respetami
Tel: 582-4433

Diabetic Foundation
Arubano

Tel: 583-3808
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel: 583-8989

Foundation Amor
pa Prohimo
Tel: 583-3345 /586-6976

Women in Difficulties
Foundation
Tel: 583-5400

Bloodbank Aruba
Tel: 587-0002

Tel: 582-0697 / 583-7484
Schotland str. 70
Email: quality@setarnet.aw
Website: www.arubaqualityapartments.com

Extend your Stay at
Quality Apartments

*Studio & Loft Apts. *Fully Furnished
*Kitchen / Airco / Cable TV *Swimming Pool
Less than 1 mile from Eagle Beach & 4 large supermarkets.
Feel free to contact or visit us.
Mon - Fri: 8am-7pm. Sat & Sun: 9am-5pm.

WANT TO RENT YOUR TIMESHARE?
LOOKING FOR A TIMESHARE TO RENT?

Go to
www.rentarubatimeshares.com

It's 100% FREE

RENT ARUBA
Private Owner Rentals

No Listing Fee - No Commission

Aruba: Tel: 737-3006 - USA 407-385-7030 - info@rentarubatimeshares.com



Marriott Aruba Surf Club GOLD Season

Oceanside \$10k Oceanview \$9500
Oceanfront \$15,000
3 BEDRM OV \$15,000

Platinum Season

Oceanview \$18k Oceanside \$19k
Oceanfront \$29k 3 BEDRM \$29k
Plat Plus Holiday 51 OV -\$42k
Plat Plus NY 52 OV- \$49k

Marriott Aruba Ocean Club

Platinum 2B Oceanview \$19k
Oceanfront PLAT \$29k
Platinum 1B OV \$12,500
Gold season 2B OV \$10,000
Oceanfront 2B \$17,000
1B Oceanfront \$9,500

La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club

Preferred Resale Company
ALL summer & fall weeks
starting at \$3k
Studio, 1Bdrm & 2Bdrm available.

WE NEED SELLERS!!

Divi, Costa Linda & Playa Linda
We also RENT Aruba
weeks for owners.

We can help you BUY, SELL or
RENT any timeshare property.
www.concierge Realty.com
Julie Miller Lic Agent x 111
Michelle Donato Lic Broker x101
michelledonato@cfl.rr.com
321-206-6293 or 888-888-2204

Can smartphones snap out of technological stupor?

MICHAEL LIEDTKE, AP Technology Writers
YOUKYUNG LEE, AP Technology Writers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — This may be remembered as the year smartphones became boring.

Although high-definition displays on smartphones have gotten bigger and their cameras have gotten better, the pace of gee-whiz innovation has dawdled.

Smartphone and software makers are working on ways to snap out of this technological lull, although it probably will be at least another year or two before breakthroughs revolutionize the design and function of mobile computing devices. In a foreshadowing of things to come, LG Electronics Inc. is boasting about the G Flex, a new phone with a curved display. Previously available in Korea and Singapore, the concave device arrived in Hong Kong on Friday.

"We want to claim this as the future of smart devices," Ramchan Woo, the head of LG's mobile product planning division, said during a recent demonstration in San Francisco.

If such visions are realized, smartphones and tablets will be equipped with display screens that can be rolled up like a scroll or folded like a wallet.

Making the devices even easier to carry around will be important if software makers want to deepen the bond between people and their phones. That could happen as smarter tracking tools and voice-recognition technology let smartphones understand habits and thoughts like a family member.

The future smartphone "will be small enough to carry with you at all times without thinking about it, and it will be essential enough that you won't want to get rid of it," Silicon Valley futurist Paul Saffo said. "It will become a context engine. It will be aware of where it is, where you are going and what you need."

The G Flex provides a peek at the shape of things to come. Despite its name, the G Flex isn't pliable. The device is slightly bowed from top to bottom, allowing it to curve toward a person's mouth when used for phone calls. It also has a curved battery, something LG says is a first for smartphones. LG applied a "self-healing" protective coat on the G Flex to automatically repair any minor scratches.

More than anything, the G Flex is meant to begin the smartphone's evolution from the primitive state

of flat screens. In theory, the curved-screen technology will lead to bendable screens, which will then pave the way to foldable screens. If that progression plays out, it would be possible to fold a larger smartphone so it can easily fit into a pocket.

For now, though, the G Flex's size makes it too cumbersome for most people to lug around. It has a six-inch screen, measured diagonally, making it among the largest

who saw prototypes of what's in the company's product pipeline during last month's meetings. Reporters weren't given a chance to see the prototypes. One featured a tablet-sized display panel that could be folded in half in the screen's midsection, according to the analysts. The display was thin and could be folded in only one direction. The rest of the panel was firm and flat, the analysts said. Another version had a more flexible

pears to be further along than the attempts to transform the display screens.

Both Apple and Google Inc., the maker of the Android operating system and the world's dominant search engine, already offer voice recognition technology and virtual assistants that enable smartphones to engage in rudimentary conversations and offer helpful tips. The ultimate goal is for smartphones to become so intuitive and



Three LG Electronics' G Flex smartphones are displayed during a media event at its head office in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2013. The G Flex smartphone featuring a curved display and battery will go on sales in the domestic market on Nov. 12.

Associated Press

phones out there. The cost also will limit its appeal. LG introduced the G Flex in its home country of South Korea last month for \$940. LG wants to sell the G Flex in the U.S., but hasn't set a date or price or reached distribution deals with any wireless carriers.

Another Korean company, Samsung Electronics Inc., also is selling a concave smartphone there. Unlike the G Flex's vertical bow, Samsung's Galaxy Round curves horizontally from left to right when it's held upright. With a price tag of about \$1,000, the phone is more an expensive novelty than a mainstream product.

Like LG, Samsung is setting the stage for bigger things to come. Samsung Vice Chairman Kwon Oh-hyun told analysts last month that the company believes it can produce a mobile device with a foldable display by 2015.

Samsung appears to be working on two slightly different concepts, according to two analysts

screen capable of bending anywhere.

An Apple Inc. blueprint for making a device with a curved display was granted a U.S. patent this week, a development likely to feed recent speculation that the iPhone maker is working on a concave model. The Cupertino, California, company declined to comment.

Other device makers may show off products with curved screens in Las Vegas next month at CES, where tech companies often unveil their latest innovations.

Building smartphones with more pliable screens will pose several challenges for manufacturers. The battery, smartphone chips and other key components will have to become flexible, too, so they can bend with the device. Flexible screens also will probably be made of plastic, a material more likely to degrade or fail when exposed to high temperatures, oxygen or water. The push to turn smartphones into more intelligent devices ap-

efficient that they reflexively cater to their owners' needs.

"You'll be speaking to the phone, asking it to do things, and it will be responding and actually doing what you intend," said Dennis Woodside, CEO of Google's device-making subsidiary, Motorola Mobility.

The technological advances could border on the supernatural, according to IDC analyst Ramon Llamas. He expects the future relationship between people and their phones to be akin to fictional billionaire Tony Stark's connection with the computer-controlled armor that he dons to become Iron Man, a comic-book hero popularized in a trilogy of movies starring Robert Downey Jr.

If Llamas is right, future smartphones will become a person's navigator, security blanket, counselor and talisman. Without a smartphone to come to the rescue, a person may even feel reduced to being a mere mortal. □

'Hobbit' box office elite with \$73.7M

JESSICA HERNDON

AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Undaunted hobbits trumped princess power at the box office.

Per studio estimates Sunday, Warner Bros. "Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug" was No. 1 at the weekend box office with \$73.7 million, besting last weekend's No. 1 film, Disney's animated fable "Frozen."

Melting down to the No. 2 position, "Frozen" earned \$22.2 in its third weekend, bringing its impressive overall domestic ticket total to nearly \$164.4 million.

Despite its first place position, "Hobbit" fell short of topping its prequel's debut. "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey," which opened this same weekend last year, gained \$84.6 million.

"Hobbit" rules this date and Warner Bros. has linked this brand to this time of year very effectively," said

box-office analyst Paul Dergarabedian of Rentrak.

"We had an excellent weekend," said Dan Fellman, president of domestic distribution at Warner Bros. "Of course, it could have been a little better, but the weather back East was really tough last night and probably took a couple million dollars out of my pocket."

But our box office will survive. We are right on target to do very similar numbers to the last 'Hobbit,' which grossed a \$1 billion worldwide (overall)."

"All of the Tyler Perry movies have done in that \$20 million plus range, but the weather was a factor in some of the performances of these films," said Dergarabedian.

Another Lionsgate film, "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire," earned \$13.2 million for the fourth place slot. To date "Catching Fire" has grossed \$739.9 million, sur-



This file film image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows a scene from "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug." Per studio estimates Sunday Dec. 15, 2013, Warner Bros. "Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug" was No. 1 at the weekend box office with \$73.7 million.

Associated Press

passing the worldwide box office total for "The Hunger Games," which brought in \$691 million.

Disney's super hero sequel, "Thor: The Dark World," continues to thrive as it remained in the top five with \$2.7 million, bringing its domestic total to \$198.1 million.

In its second weekend, Relativity Media's redemption drama "Out of the Furnace," starring Christian Bale and Casey Affleck, dropped to the sixth place position with \$2.3 million after opening in the third

place slot.

Disney's comedy "Delivery Man," with Vince Vaughn as the lead, dropped in at No. 7 in its fourth weekend at the box office with \$1.9 million, bringing its domestic total to \$28 million.

The Weinstein Co.'s "Philomena," starring Judi Dench, who received a best-actress Golden Globe Awards nomination for her performance as a nun in search of her son, landed in the No. 8 spot at the weekend box office with \$1.8 million. In its sixth weekend at the box office, Fox's Nazi Ger-

many-set "The Book Thief," starring Emily Watson, Geoffrey Rush and Sophie Nelisse, held the ninth position with \$1.7 million.

Coming in at No. 10 was the Jason Statham and James Franco-starring Open Road crime thriller "Homefront," which gained \$1.6 million in its third weekend. Its total domestic gross is now \$18.4 million.

Opening in limited release in just six locations, David O. Russell's con artist tale, "American Hustle," scored \$690,000 over the weekend. □

'Lawrence of Arabia' star Peter O'Toole dead at 81

GREGORY KATZ

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Known on the one hand for his starring role in "Lawrence of Arabia," leading tribesmen in daring attacks across the desert wastes, and on the other for his headlong charges into drunken debauchery, Peter O'Toole was one of the most magnetic, charismatic and fun figures in British acting.

O'Toole, who died Saturday at age 81 after a long bout of illness, was fearfully handsome, with burning blue eyes and a penchant for hard living which long outlived his decision to give up alcohol. Broadcaster Michael Parkinson told Sky News television it was hard to be too sad about his passing.

"Peter didn't leave much of life un-lived, did he?" he said, chuckling.

A reformed — but unrepentant — hell-raiser, O'Toole long suffered from ill health. Always thin, he had grown

wraithlike in later years, his famously handsome face eroded by years of outrageous drinking.

But nothing diminished his flamboyant manner and candor.

"If you can't do something willingly and joyfully, then don't do it," he once said. "If you give up drinking, don't go moaning about it; go back on the bottle. Do. As. Thou. Wilt."

O'Toole began his acting career as one of the most exciting young talents on the British stage. His 1955 "Hamlet," at the Bristol Old Vic, was critically acclaimed.

International stardom came in David Lean's "Lawrence of Arabia." With only a few minor movie roles behind him, O'Toole was unknown to most moviegoers when they first saw him as T.E. Lawrence, the mythic British World War I soldier and scholar who led an Arab rebellion against the Turks.



In this April 30, 2011 file photo, Actor Peter O'Toole, center, poses with his daughter Kate O'Toole, left, and son Lorcan O'Toole during his hand and footprint ceremony at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

His sensitive portrayal of Lawrence's complex character garnered O'Toole his first Oscar nomination, and the spectacularly photographed desert epic remains his best known role. O'Toole was tall, fair and strikingly handsome, and the image of his bright blue eyes peering out of an Arab headdress in Lean's

film was unforgettable.

Playwright Noel Coward once said that if O'Toole had been any prettier, they would have had to call the movie "Florence of Arabia."

Prime Minister David Cameron said Sunday the movie was his favorite film, calling O'Toole's performance "stunning."

In 1964's "Becket," O'Toole played King Henry II to Richard Burton's Thomas Becket, and won another Oscar nomination. Burton shared O'Toole's fondness for drinking, and their off-set carousing made headlines.

Four more nominations followed: in 1968 for "Goodbye, Mr. Chips," in 1971 for "The Ruling Class," in 1980 for "The Stunt Man," and in 1982 for "My Favorite Year." It was almost a quarter-century before he received his eighth and last, for "Venus."

Seamus Peter O'Toole was born Aug. 2, 1932, the son of Irish bookie Patrick "Spats" O'Toole and his wife Constance. There is some question about whether Peter was born in Connemara, Ireland, or in Leeds, northern England, where he grew up, but he maintained close links to Ireland, even befriending the country's now-president, Michael D. Higgins. □

'Stones 50' is the band's intimate family portrait

VALERIA AGIS

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — The Rolling Stones came to Adam Cooper's house to celebrate one of his early birthdays, and gave him two signed guitars. Two days later, Keith Richards came knocking, and sheepishly asked to borrow the acoustic one to record a song: "Ruby Tuesday."

"Of course I still have this instrument!" Cooper laughs, four decades later. "It's very well protected, because I think it's worth a fortune!"

Cooper, now 49, had a childhood millions of Stones fans could only dream of: He was part of the band's extended family for a decade as the son of British photographer Michael Cooper, who captured 3,500 images of their intimate daily life. Some 100 of these photographs are on display in "Stones 50," an exhibition that opened Friday and runs through February at the Centro Cultural Borges in Buenos Aires before moving to Chile and other stops in Latin America.

Cooper lives with his wife, Silvia, in Buenos Aires,



A man walks past a banner featuring a Michael Cooper photo of the Rolling Stones, on the eve of the inauguration of Stones 50, an exhibit of Cooper's photos, the official photographer of the Rolling Stones in the first years of the band, presented by his son Adam, at the Centro Cultural Borges in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Thursday, Dec. 12, 2013.

Associated Press

where they have spent years curating his father's overall collection of 70,000 photos.

As a young single father in London's psychedelic era, Michael Cooper also shot many other icons and artists, from John Lennon to William Burroughs to Rene Magritte, and created the colorful cover for the Beatles' "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" album in 1967. Adam came along for the ride, on the Stones' tours and to recording studios, hotel rooms, backstage dressing rooms and

vacations.

"He had such a good relationship with them that they were always relaxed in front of the camera," Adam recalled. "This was their real life."

Adam was 9 when this rock and roll childhood ended with his father's suicide, he said. Still, he remains close to Richards.

"The last time I saw him he said, 'Everyone has bad days, me too. When this happens, I look to the sky and I ask advice from your father,'" Adam Cooper recalled. □

KISS guitarist Ace Frehley's NY home goes up in flames

YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, New York (AP) — A suburban New York house owned by former KISS lead guitarist Ace Frehley has gone up in flames.

The Journal News newspaper reports that firefighters were called to the stone house in the town of Yorktown Heights late Saturday morning.

The home was heavily damaged, with flames burning through the roof. The newspaper says the musician had been fighting foreclosure on the property in Westchester County Court.

The Red Cross helped a resident with emergency lodging. A neighbor says a caretaker had been living in the home.

It was not clear where the 62-year-old founding member of the famed rock band was at the time of the blaze.

He played with the group until 2002, during what was billed as their farewell tour. □



A firefighter pulls hose away from the building after fighting a house fire in Yorktown Heights, N.Y., Saturday, Dec. 14, 2013.

Associated Press

For Dion, new single, special, 'Voice' appearance

MIKE CIDONI LENNOX

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Virtually every entertainer has a misfire.

But it's news when an album by one of the best-selling recording artists in history quickly tumbles down the charts.

Celine Dion's first all-new English-language album in six years, "Loved Me Back to Life," entered the Billboard 200 at No. 2. But just five weeks later, it's plummeted to No. 35.

"Of course, the record company wants to be the No. 1," said Dion. "They want to sell records. They

want to make money. And don't get me wrong, I want to. But I'm proud about what I have done with this record."

According to the Metacritic website, the majority of the album's reviews have been positive. And even some of the negative critiques have paused to praise Dion's emerging vocal maturity.

Over the next few days, millions will hear a sample when she performs her new ballad "Incredible" with Ne-Yo on "The Voice." The pair will perform the mid-tempo ballad live on the Tuesday night season finale

of NBC's singing-competition show.

Then on Wednesday, Dion is the principal performer and host of the CBS special "A Home For the Holidays," which underscores the need for children to be adopted from foster care.

"As a mom, I could not refuse (the gig)," explained Dion on Saturday night after the "Holidays" taping.

The singer and her husband René Angélil have three biological sons, all through in-vitro fertilization.

"But adoption (had) always been taken into consideration," she added.

The 45-year-old Dion said



Singer Celine Dion poses for a portrait on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2012 in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

motherhood is the cornerstone of her life, as well as what propels her career, which also includes a recent return to residency at The Colosseum at Caesars

Palace Las Vegas. She said she'd like to try acting, but she isn't interested in following Carrie Underwood into the live-TV musical arena. □

Why Mandela Was Unique



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
© 2013 New York Times

The global outpouring of respect for Nelson Mandela suggests that we're not just saying good-bye to the man at his death but that we're losing a certain kind of leader, unique on the world stage today, and we are mourning that just as much. Mandela had an extraordinary amount of "moral authority." Why? And how did he get it?

Much of the answer can be deduced from one scene in one movie about Mandela that I've written about before: "Invictus." Just to remind, it tells the story of Mandela's one and only term as president of South Africa, when he enlists the country's famed rugby team, the Springboks, on a mission to win the 1995 Rugby World Cup and, through that, to start the healing of that apartheid-torn land. Before the games, though, the sports committee in the post-apartheid, newly black-led South Africa tells Mandela that it wants to change the name and colors of the almost all-white Springboks to something more reflective of black African identity.

But Mandela refuses. He tells his black sports officials that an essential part of making whites feel at home in a black-led South Africa was not uprooting all their cherished symbols. "That is selfish thinking," Mandela, played by Morgan Freeman, says in the movie. "It does not serve the nation." Then speaking of South Africa's whites, Mandela adds, "We have to surprise them with restraint and generosity."

There are so many big leadership lessons in this short scene. The first is that one way leaders generate moral authority is by being willing to challenge their own base at times - and not just the other side. It is easy to lead by telling your own base what it wants to hear. It is easy to lead when you're giving things away. It is easy to lead when things are going well. But what's really difficult is getting your society to do something big and hard and together. And the only way to do that is by not only asking the other side's base to do something hard - in South Africa's case, asking whites to cede power to black majority rule - but to challenge your own base to do hard things, too: in South Africa's case, asking blacks to avoid revenge after so many years of brutal, entrenched, white rule.

Dov Seidman, whose company, LRN, advises CEO's on governance and who is the author of the book "How," argues that another source of Mandela's moral authority derived from the fact that "he trusted his people with the truth" rather than just telling

them what they wanted to hear. "Leaders who trust people with the truth, hard truths, are trusted back," said Seidman. Leaders who don't generate anxiety and uncertainty in their followers, who usually deep down know the truth and are not really relieved, at least for long, by having it ignored or disguised.

Finally, said Seidman, "Mandela did big things by making himself small."

"Through his uncommon humility and his willingness to trust his people with the truth," explained Seidman, "Mandela created a hopeful space where enough South Africans trusted each other enough so they could unite and do the hard work of transition together."

What is so inspiring about Mandela, explained Seidman, "is that he did not make the moment of South Africa's transition about himself. It was not about his being in jail for 27 years. It was not about his need for retribution." It was about seizing a really big moment to go from racism to pluralism without stopping for revenge. "Mandela did not make himself the hope," added Seidman. "He saw his leadership challenge as inspiring hope in others, so they would do the hard work of reconciliation. It was in that sense that he accomplished big things by making himself smaller than the moment."

To put it another way, Mandela, and his partner, South African President F.W. de Klerk, got enough of their people to transcend their past rather than to wallow in it. So much of American politics today, noted Seidman, is about "shifting, not elevating, people." So much of American politics today is about how I narrowcast to this poll-tested demographic in this ZIP code to get just enough voters to shift to my side to give me 50.1 percent - just enough to win office, but not to govern or do anything big and hard. Mandela's leadership genius was his ability to enlist a critical mass of South Africans to elevate, to go to a new place, not just shift a few votes at the margin. It is precisely the absence of such leadership in so many countries today that has motivated millions of superempowered individuals in different countries in the last four years - from Iran to Egypt to Tunisia to Turkey to Ukraine - to flock to public squares. What is striking, though, is the fact that none of these "Tahrir Square movements" have built sustainable democratic alternatives yet. That is a big, hard project, and it can only be done together. And it turns out that generating that unity of purpose and focus still requires a leader, but the right kind of leader.

"People are rejecting leaders who rule by the formal authority of their position and command by hierarchical power," said Seidman, but "they are craving genuine leadership - leaders who lead by their moral authority to inspire, to elevate others and to enlist us in a shared journey." □



Thinking For The Future



DAVID BROOKS
© 2013 New York Times

We're living in an era of mechanized intelligence, an age in which you're probably going to find yourself in a workplace with diagnostic systems, algorithms and computer-driven data analysis. If you want to thrive in this era, you probably want to be good at working with intelligent machines. As Tyler Cowen puts it in his relentlessly provocative recent book, "Average Is Over," "If you and your skills are a complement to the computer, your wage and labor market prospects are likely to be cheery. If your skills do not complement the computer, you may want to address that mismatch."

So our challenge for the day is to think of exactly which mental abilities complement mechanized intelligence. Off the top of my head, I can think of a few mental types that will probably thrive in the years ahead.

FREESTYLERS. As Cowen notes, there's a style of chess in which people don't play against the computer but with the computer. They let the computer program make most of the moves, but, occasionally, they overrule it. They understand the strengths and weaknesses of the program and the strengths and weaknesses of their own intuition, and, ideally, they grab the best of both.

This skill requires humility (most of the time) and self-confidence (rarely). It's the kind of skill you

use to overrule your GPS system when you're driving in a familiar neighborhood but defer to it in strange surroundings. It is the sort of skill a doctor uses when deferring to or overruling a diagnostic test. It's the skill of knowing when an individual case is following predictable patterns and when there are signs it is diverging from them.

SYNTHESIZERS. The computerized world presents us with a surplus of information. The synthesizer has the capacity to surf through vast amounts of online data and crystallize a generalized pattern or story.

HUMANIZERS. People evolved to relate to people. Humanizers take the interplay between man and machine and make it feel more natural. Steve Jobs did this by making each Apple product feel like nontechnological artifact. Someday a genius is going to take customer service phone trees and make them more human. Someday a retail genius is going to figure out where customers probably want automated checkout (the drugstore) and where they want the longer human interaction (the grocery store).

CONCEPTUAL ENGINEERS. Google presents prospective employees with challenges like the following: How many times in a day do a clock's hands overlap? Or: Figure out the highest floor of a 100-story building you can drop an egg from without it breaking. How many drops do you need to figure this out? You can break two eggs in the process.

They are looking for the ability to come up with creative methods to think about unexpected problems.

MOTIVATORS. Millions of people begin online courses, but few actually finish them. I suspect that's because most students are not motivated to impress a computer the way they may be motivated to impress a human professor. Managers who can motivate supreme effort in a machine-dominated environ-

ment are going to be valuable. **MORALIZERS.** Mechanical intelligence wants to be efficient. It will occasionally undervalue essential moral traits, like loyalty. Soon, performance metrics will increasingly score individual employees. A moralizing manager will insist that human beings can't be reduced to the statistical line. A company without a self-conscious moralizer will reduce human interaction to the cash nexus and end up destroying morale and social capital.

GREETERS. An economy that is based on mechanized intelligence is likely to be a wildly unequal economy, even if the government tries to combat that inequality. Cowen estimates that perhaps 15 percent of workers will thrive, with plenty of disposable income. There will be intense competition for these people's attention. They will favor restaurants, hotels, law firms, foundations and financial institutions where they are greeted by someone who knows their name. People with this capacity for high-end service, and flat-tery, will find work.

ECONOMIZERS. The bottom 85 percent is likely to be made up of people with less marketable workplace skills. Some of these people may struggle financially but not socially or intellectually. That is, they may not make much running a food truck, but they can lead rich lives, using the free bounty of the Internet. They could use a class of advisers on how to preserve rich lives on a small income.

WEAVERS. Many of the people who struggle economically will lack the self-motivation to build rich inner lives for themselves. Many are already dropping out of the labor force in record numbers and drifting into disorganized, disaffected lifestyles. Public and private institutions are going to hire more people to fight this social disintegration. There will be jobs for people who combat the dangerous egalitarian tendencies of this new world. □

Tonight at 8PM at Palm Beach Plaza Mall: Aruba's Majestic Carnival Season Comes To Life!



PALM BEACH - Palm Beach Plaza Mall new majestic carnival season has started at Aruba's largest mall. The Aruba Carnival is a thrilling show of over-the-top pageantry, produced by thousands and delighting and

uniting the entire country. Here's the scoop on how it began.

Carnival was born in 1954, as a series of small street festivals. The Tivoli Club, Aruba's oldest private social club, was the first to



have a pre-Lenten celebration in Oranjestad in February 1944. The Allied victory of World War II was

commemorated by an Aruba Festival - a large parade in San Nicolas comprised largely of Caribbean-English immigrants who came to Aruba to work at the Lago Oil Refinery. The first steel and brass bands debuted a few years later and small parades sprouted here and there. Tonight at 8PM, Palm Beach Plaza Mall will have a great Carnival Show where you can experience for yourself the taste of Aruba's Carnival culture with the opportunity to take pictures with the majestic

carnival dancers with carnival costumes. Come and enjoy the show! □



PALM BEACH PLAZA MALL

More Choices

Little White Dress Night

ARUBA

aruba.com

Little White Dress

Carnival NIGHT

at Palm Beach Plaza Mall

EVERY MONDAY 8:00pm

CHANEL

HUBLOT

UNITED COLORS OF BENETTON

Caribbean Cinema

SAMSUNG

TOTTO

basinger

MONT BLANC

Salvatore Ferragamo

LIADRÓ

SWAROVSKI

LONGINES

PALM BEACH PLAZA MALL

L.G. Smith Blvd

SHOPPING BREAKFAST LUNCH DINNER

Palm Beach Plaza Mall • L.G. Smith Boulevard #95, Palm Beach, Aruba • palmbeachplaza.com • FaceBook: Palm Beach Plaza